



EVALUATION OF SAFETY AT BAILROAD-

HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSINGS

To: G. A. Leonards, Director

Joint Highway Research Project September 24, 1965

From: H. L. Michael, Associate Director File No: 8-5-6

Joint Highway Research Project Project No: C-36-59F

Mr. Thomas G. Schultz submits the attached Final Report "Evaluation of Safety at Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings" as fulfillment of his proposed research submitted by him and approved by the Board on March 6, 1964. Professor J. C. Oppenlander guided the research and preparation of the report.

The results given in the attached report can be used to determine the type of protection that a rail-highway crossing warrants. Mathematical models are also given which permit the prediction of the relative hazard at a crossing and those factors which were found to increase the hezard are noted.

The report is submitted for acceptance.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold L. Michael 180

Harold L. Michael, Secretary

HLM:bc

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Final Report

EVALUATION OF SAPETY AT RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSINGS

Ъу

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File No: 8-5-6

Project No: C-36-59F

Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana
September 24, 1965



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The author also wishes to express his appreciation to the Automotive Safety Foundation and the Joint Highway Research Project whose financial assistance made his attendance at Purdue University possible.

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ABSTRACT

Schultz, Thomas Gordon. Ph.D., Purdue University, August 1965.

Evaluation of Safety at Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings. Najor

Professor: Joseph C. Oppenlander.

The purpose of this research investigation was to analyze the effects of environment, topography, geometry, and highway and rail traffic patterns with respect to rail-highway grade crossing accidents in rural areas.

The mathematical tools of factor analysis and regression analysis were used to develop models for predicting the relative hazard at a railroad grade crossing. These models are based on rail volume, highway volume, and roadside distractions, such as houses, businesses and advertisaing signs. To evaluate the proposed mathematical relationships, it was necessary to collect sufficient data on many variables deemed to have an influence on safety. Therefore, 56 variables were measured at the 289 accident locations and 28 variables at the 241 non-accident locations.

Previous research efforts were concerned either with long period accident experience or with before-and-after studies of the various protection devices. In this research, locations which experienced accidents in a two-year period were compared to non-accident locations. The results of this study can be used to determine the type of protection which a crossing warrants.

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INTRODUCTION

The meter vehicle-train accident, though infrequent, is the most severe in terms of fatalities, personal injuries and property damage per accident of all types experienced on American highways. This type of accident, however, can be eliminated only by closing all crossings to highway traffic or by construction grade separations for all rail-highway crossings.

The delay and congestion resulting from the first alternative obviously would not be telerated by the motoring public. Based on an estimated cost of separation imprevements in Ohio, it would cost \$5 billion to construct grade separations at the 10,800 grade crossings in the State of Indiana. (28)

Another alternative is to install modern flashing lights with short arm gates at all crossings. Such an undertaking is estimated to reduce the number of accidents by a considerable amount, but the cost would be in excess of \$150 million. (28) This figure is more realistic but still represents an enermous sum of money. Furthermore, the expenditure of this amount of money might well be more efficiently used for the prevention of other types of accidents.

During 1962 and 1963, 149 people were killed in meter vehicle-train accidents in Indiana. This figure accounts for 6.0 percent of the total highway fatalities but only 0.4 percent of the total number of accidents.

(17) The severity of these accidents is of general concern to the public and is invariably well publicized.

The national trend for rail-highway grade crossing accidents is

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decreasing, but the reverse is true in Indians. Based en data compiled by the Interstate Commerce Commission at the close of 1953, the numbers of grade crossing accidents and fatalities in Indians were among the highest in the nation. Indians was exceeded only by the State of Arkansas in grade crossing accidents per million cars registered and grade crossing deaths per million cars registered. (28)

The present warrants as specified by the Indiana State Highway Commission for the protection of highway-rail grade crossings are as follows:

- a) "Two or more main line tracks should be protected by flashing lights and short arm gates;
- b) Where train speeds are 70 mph or greater en single line tracks, flashing lights and short arm gates should be used; and
- c) All other crossings are protected by flashing lights except
 these where there is good sight distance in all quadrants and
 where either the highway traffic is less than 500 vehicles per
 day (ADT), or rail traffic less than 6 trains per day (TPD).

 These latter crossings are protected by reflectorized crossbucks
 and advance warning signs." (26)

These general warrants do not result in priority ratings based on hazard.

The priority for improving crossing protection at rail-highway intersections is left to subjective judgment.

In a recent report by the Interstate Commerce Commission based on data submitted by the railroads, Henry Vinskey concluded that the major cause of rail-highway grade crossing accidents is the failure of motor-vehicle drivers to yield to trains. (20) The purpose of this research study was to investigate existing conditions which might have encouraged drivers not to take reasonable precautions. The study constitutes an analysis of highway-rail grade crossing accidents with respect to the

effects of environment, crossing goometry, highway and rail traffic patterns, existing protective devices, and other relevant elements and their relative importance as a basis for determining a more effective and economic means of establishing the necessary railroad crossing protection.

In this study, mathematical models were developed to predict the relative hazard of rail-highway grade crossings for various types of crossing conditions and protection. Priority ratings based on this model or the significant hazards determined in its development would permit a wiser determination of the most needed improvements for rail-highway grade crossings.

Because of the large number of crossings and the high costs involved, it is not economically possible to eliminate all crossings or even provide all crossings with the most effective types of protection. The development of a method for establishing priorities among grade crossing projects is necessary because the amount of total expenditure is dependent upon the tax burden which the public is willing to assume.

Known accident locations and non-accident locations in rural areas were analysed to develop correlations for the study variables. Factor analysis and regression analysis were the analytical techniques employed. The principal concern of factor analysis is to resolve a set of variables linearly into a smaller number of factors. As a result, factor analysis often permits a simple interpretation of a given array of data and may afford a simplified description of the particular set of variables analysed. (29) Regression analysis provides a quantitative description of a dependent variable as it is functionally related to the independent variables.

Proper use of the mathematical models developed in this study permit:

- 1. An estimation of hazard at a rail-highway grade crossing, and
- 2. A basis for establishing a priority program for improving protection.

In this study, theoretical methods were applied to practical conditions. The results are based on a scientific analysis and not on subjective judgment, and a better understanding of rail-highway grade crossing accidents has been gained through the appraisal and the evaluation of the many variables.

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REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In 1878, there were 191 railroad grade crossing accidents and 98 accompanying deaths reported for a seven-year period in the State of Massachusetts. During 1890, 402 persons were killed and 675 were injured in the United States as a result of vehicle-train accidents. (9) These dates indicate that railway grade crossing accidents were a problem even before the advent of the motor vehicle. Authors, engineers, public officials, and railroad men have concerned themselves with safe railroad operation since 1830 when the Baltimore and Ohio operated the first common-carrier service. (14)

Type of Protection

The introduction of the automobile on American roads and highways during the early 1900's resulted in even more accidents and emphasized the need for improved crossing protection. Many types of protective devices were installed and evaluated. Among these were crossbucks, bells, wig-wags, lights, rotating disks, flashing lights, watchmen, and gates. (12) Even a cable barrier was tested in Chicago, Illinois, in 1921. (9)

Only three devices are substantially used today for rural crossings. The crossbuck is the only protection given to drivers at 80 percent of the 225,000 grade crossings located in the United States. The next most common protective device is a flasher consisting of a flashing light with a bell. Automatic gates which lower and block vehicular traffic a minimum of 20 seconds prior to the arrival of the fastest train affords the most positive separation of highway and railroad traffic for at-grade locations.

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The ultimate in protection is, of course, the grade separation. An average cost of each necessary structure is presently estimated at \$350,000. (28)

The crossbuck only indicates the presence of a railroad crossing.

The flasher and automatic gates warn the motorists that a train is approaching. The effectiveness of the bell has been questioned, but undoubtedly some motorists are attracted by the noise when visibility of the flashing light is limited by reflected or direct sunlight. (32)

Realizing that the crossbuck is the basic warning device used at most crossings, T. M. Vanderstemple investigated the influence of various types of paint and reflective materials on the desirable properties listed below:

- 1. Reflection of light back to the approaching vehicle,
- 2. Ease of cleaning,
- 3. Reflective properties when wet.
- 4. Cost, and
- 5. Service life.

Vanderstemple concluded that reflectorized materials were far superior to any painted surface.

Stop signs and traffic signals have been incorporated at some crossings. The stop sign directs all vehicles to stop before proceeding, and the traffic signal can be automatically operated in conjunction with the approach of a train. In recent testimony before the Interstate Commerce Commission, G. H. Wyatt disclosed the results of experimentation with such protective devices in Michigan. Justification for such installations was based on the concept that such signs as caution, yield right-of-way, slow, and railroad crossing cause no immediate reaction, but the traffic signal and the stop sign do produce positive driver responses.

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Fear of arrest was considered the origany reason for this tectaion.

Comparative figures indicated a 6 to 1 ratio of accident reduction in favor of the traffic signal when compared to similar crossings protected by flashers.

Stop signs have been placed at grade rail-crossings on some secondary roads. To determine the merits of claims that become do not stop for such signs and thus become contemptuous of all stop signs, weatt (41) reported that observations of several installations disclosed that 33 percent of all drivers either stopped or slowed to speeds of less than 5 mpm. He also noted that another recent study confirmed these results and that in one study of stop signs on low volume roads, accidents were reduced by 80 to 34 percent while in another study, the reduction amounted to 72 percent. Deveral of anothers advocate the use of stop signs to protect the highway traffic approarating at-grade railroad crossings. (2, 5, 23, 28)

Protection Coefficients

Protection coefficients are comparative numerical ratings of the measure of protection afforded by the various protection devices. The results of the several stidies which have developed protection coefficients are summarized below.

1. L. E. Peabody and T. F. Dimmick, in a 1941 study performed by the Division of Transport, Public Roads Administration, collected data on 3,563 crossings in 29 states for a five-year study period. The protection coefficients calculated for the various types of crossings were based on the following emperical formula relating the protection coefficients to exposure units and accident experience: (31)

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$$P = \frac{1}{N} \sum \frac{H \times T}{100A} = \frac{1}{100N} \sum \frac{H \times T}{A}$$

where P = the protection coefficient for a type of protection,

N = the number of crossings in a type group,

H = the daily highway traffic volume at each crossing,

T = daily train traffic volume at each crossing, and

A = number of accidents.

The results of this analysis for P were:

Crossbucks

19

Flashers

114

Gates

333

2. Harold Marks summarized the results of three studies. The first study was based on a 20-year before-and-after analysis of 49 crossings where the protection was changed to gates. Data were taken from the files of the Public Utilities Commission and represented crossings in Los Angeles County. Because of the metropolitan character of Los Angeles County, these crossings were primarily located in urbanized areas. The change in protection from crossbucks to gates resulted in a 91 percent reduction in fatalities and 85 percent in personal injuries.

The second study reported by Marks was an Illinois study of 23 gate locations on the Grand Trunk Western Railroad.

Fatalities were reduced 93 percent and injuries 98 percent from those at the crossings with crossbucks.

A third study of 35 crossings on the Main Line, San Francisco to San Jose, disclosed that the installation of gates reduced accidents from those with crossbucks by 80 percent, fatalities by 94 percent, and injuries by 95 percent.

Using the reduction in fatalities as a comparative base,

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the resulting protection coefficients were: (24)

	Los Angeles County	Illinois	State of Celifornia
Crossbucks	1	1	1
Flashers	3.5	na fin na	
Gates	11	14	5

- 3. T. M. Chubb reported the results of a study in which crossbuck protection was changed to flasher protection in the City of Los Angeles. Approximately 400 crossing-years experience showed a reduction in accidents of 76 percent and fatalities more than 85 percent. Rased on the reduction in fatalities, flashers resulted in 6.7 times fewer deaths than did the crossbucks. (4)
- 4. W. J. Hedley investigated 321 crossings in the State of Indiana for a 20-year period, 1920-1940. Based on a reduction in accidents after a change in crossing protection, the following protection coefficients were developed. (16)

Crossbucks 0.504
Flashers 0.177
Gates 0.092

5. C. McEachern in a four-year study of 190 accident locations in Houston, Texas, developed the following coefficients based on accidents per exposure: (25)

Crossbucks 0.015
Flashers 0.005
Gates 0.002

6. The Oregon State Highway Department concluded a five-year study of 378 accident crossings in 1950. Protection coefficients were calculated using the relationship between rail and highway



volumes and the accident experiences of the various protection devices. The results of this study were as follows: (30)

Crossbucks 1.0

Flashers 0.6

Gates 0.1

These coefficients represent the results of before-and-after or accident experience studied at railroad grade crossings. They are summarized in Table 1 after setting the value for crossbucks at unity, with higher values indicating increased safety.

Influencing Variables

One motor vehicle and one train arriving at a grade crossing at or about the same time are required for an accident. Therefore, the two most obvious variables which affect the potential for an accident are vehicle and train volumes. The type or degree of protection may also be important. Early research and hazard formulas were based on these three variables.

The Peabody and Dimmick study, for example, investigated traffic volumes, sight distances, vertical and horizontal alinement, surface types, and number of tracks. Only train and highway volumes and the type of protection were significantly related to the number of accidents. This study analysed 1,254 crossings of which more than 60 percent were in urban locations. (5)

F. B. Crandall of the Oregon State Highway Department found that nighttime accidents were 40 percent more likely to occur than daytime accidents. (30) In consideration of this fact, nighttime traffic volumes were increased by 40 percent in applying the developed hazard formula. The formula also considered the past accident experience of the crossing under investigation.

In a detailed analysis, the Armour Research Foundation reported that

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TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF PROTECTION COEFFICIENT

				Study				
Type of Protection	Peabody Los Dimmick Co		State of Illinois	Angeles State of State of unty California	Los Angeles City	Hedley	Hedley McEachern	State of Oregon
Crossbuck	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Flasher	2.9	3.5	!	!	2.9	2.9	2.9	1.7
Gate	17.5	11.0	14.0	5.0	ļ	5.4	7.5	10.0

-			

the following variables were significant at the one percent level of significance: (7)

- 1. Number of tracks,
- 2. Type of highway surface,
- 3. Gradient of highway,
- 4. Visibility,
- 5. Vehicular speed,
- 6. Vehicular volume,
- 7. Rail speed,
- 8. Rail volume, and
- 9. Type of protection.

The horizontal alinements of the highway and the railroad had no significant influence on the safety of grade crossings.

Chubb points out that such variables as illumination, distractive influences, and visibility may also influence hazard at a crossing. However, these variables are extremely difficult to measure quantitatively. (9)

Hazard Indices

Many indices of hazard have been developed as a result of the studies previously mentioned. A hazard index is a relative measure of hazard at a crossing as expressed by the influencing variables included in the equation. The formulas presented below have been reduced to common notation which is defined in Table 2. The first eight formulas were summarized by Marks. (24)

1. California Public Utilities Commission Accident Formula (5-year basis):

$$IH = A + I + 2K$$



2. Illinois Commerce Commission (Warren Henry):

$$IH = VR(1 + Q + A_t + U)$$

3. City of Detroit (adapted to California conditions);

IH =
$$\left[\frac{V}{1000} \left(\frac{P}{10} + \frac{T}{20} + \frac{S}{30}\right) Q + N + C\right] G + A$$

4. Federal Aid Highway Deficiency Study:

$$IH = VR/1000$$

5. Los Angeles Grade Crossing Committee:

IH =
$$\frac{V}{1000}$$
 [P + 10(T + S)]

6. California Public Utilities Commission Composite:

IH =
$$\left(\frac{V}{1000}\right)$$
 (2R₁ + R₂) (M₁) (A) (G)

7. State of Oregon (1941):

$$IH = VR(U_s + R_s)(I + A)$$

8. California Department of Public Works and Public Utilities

Commission:

9. Utah-Idaho State Highway Department: (26)

$$IH = VR (T_1 + S + A_n + N + M)$$

10. State of Oregon: (30)

11. Arkansas State Highway Department: (26)

$$IH = VR(A + G)$$

12. Iowa State Highway Department: (22)

IH =
$$\frac{.0167 \text{ VRs}}{2\text{S}}$$
 + 1.5306 $\left(\frac{\text{T}_{R}}{5}\right)$ + $\frac{90}{\text{An}}$ + $\frac{\text{S}_{s}}{100}$

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Table 2 Index of Hazard Notation

IH = index of hazard A = accidents or accident factor A_n = intersection angle factor At = attention or distraction factor C = road condition factor D = darkness factor G = existing crossing protection factor I = number of persons injured K = number of persons killed M = special condition M_7 = number of main line tracks N = total number of tracks or rating factor P = number of passenger trains traversing the crossing in a 24-hour period = quadrant visibility factor R = number of trains traversing the crossing in a 24-hour period R₁ = number of trains per day exceeding 25 mph R_2^- = number of trains per day traveling at 25 mph or less $R_s = train speed factor$ = view factor S, = number of switching movements traversing the crossing in a 24-hour period $S_s = stopping sight distance$ = number of through freights traversing the crossing in a 24-hour period T_R = terrain factor = train type and speed factor = user factor V = number of vehicles traversing the crossing in a 24-hour period or rating factor

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Warrants

Warrants represent various criteria for the justification of improved crossing protection. W. A. McLaughlin, with replies from all but six of the 48 states, determined that 17 states use numerical warrants for grade-crossing protection. (26)

For federal-aid highways the United States Bureau of Public Roads requires all grade crossings with: a) multiple main line railroad tracks; b) multiple track crossings with or without main tracks on which more than one train may occupy the crossing at a time; c) single or multiple track crossings where the train operating speeds are 70 mph or greater and sight distances are restricted; to be protected with flashing light signals with short arm gates.

A general numerical warrant recommended by the Bureau and used by seven states is as follows:

- 1. Flashing lights are to be installed on new construction and existing grades when the cross product of ADT and TPD (15 years hence) is between 1,500 and 5,000.
- 2. Short arm gates and flashing lights are to be installed on new construction and at existing grades where the highway traffic exceeds 2,000 ADT (15 years hence) or where product of TPD and ADT (15 years hence) is greater than 5,000 for single line tracks or exceeds 3,000 for double line tracks.

Arkansas uses its hazard rating formula and has established numerical warrants. California, Idaho, and Utah also have established numerical warrants based on their individual formulas.

Illinois considers signalization when the cross product of ADT and TPD is 3,000. They also base their warrant on an economic criteria. Indiana's general warrants are discussed in the Introduction. Michigan

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uses subjective judgment except that no crossing will be signalized that has less than 400 ADT or four or less TPD. Nine states use the Peabody and Dimmick nomograph shown in Figure 1. (31)

Prediction Formulas

The prediction of accident frequency is useful both in the determination of crossing warrants and for the economic justification of crossing protection.

The prediction equation proposed by Peabody and Dimmick is as follows: (31)

$$I = \frac{H^{a} \times T^{b}}{P^{c}} + K = 1.28 \frac{H^{0.170} \times T^{0.151}}{P^{0.171}} + K$$

where I = probable number of accidents in a 10-year period,

a,b,c, = exponential constants,

H = ADT, motor vehicles,

T = number of trains per day,

P = protection coefficient, and

K = an additional parameter to account for variability (approximately 33 percent of the estimate).

The engineers of the Oregon State Highway Department predict accidents for a 5-year period by using the graph shown in Figure 2. (30)

The regression analysis performed by the Armour Research Institute resulted in the following formula: (7)

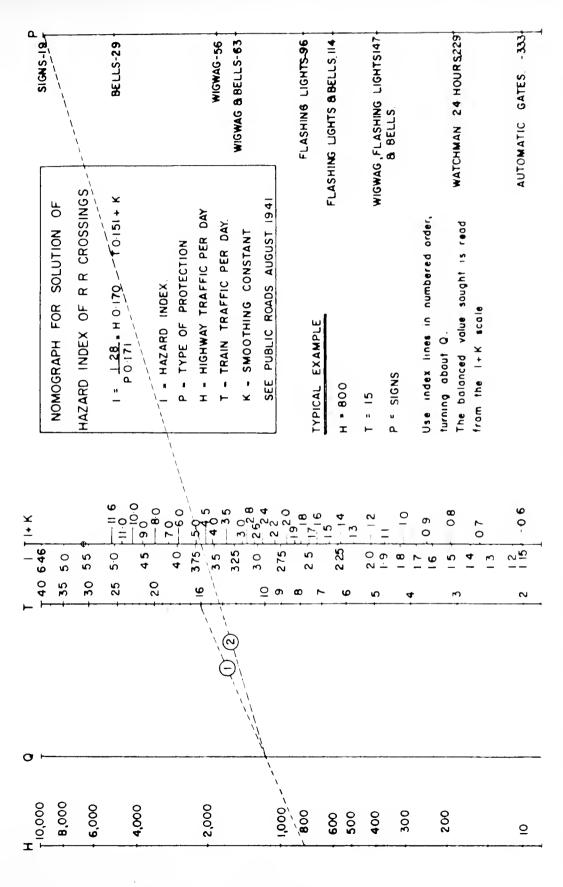
$$Y = 0.701 X_{01} + 0.830X_{02} + 0.975X_{03} + 0.549X_{04} - 0.042X_{1}$$
$$- 0.974X_{2} - 0.065X_{3} + 0.047X_{1}^{2} + 0.023X_{2}^{2} - 0.013X_{3}^{2}$$
$$+ 0.084X_{1}X_{2} - 0.023X_{1}X_{3} + 0.200X_{2}X_{3}$$

where Y = expected number of accidents for a 16-year period,

$$X_{01} = 1$$
, $X_{02} = X_{03} = X_{04} = 0$ for painted crossbucks,

$$X_{02} = 1$$
, $X_{01} = X_{03} = X_{04} = 0$ for reflectorized crossbucks,





22, NO 6, OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NOMOGRAPH (SOURCE: PUBLIC ROADS VOL ACCIDENT HAZARDS AT GRADE CROSSINGS.) F1G. –



ACCIDENT PREDICTION CURVE

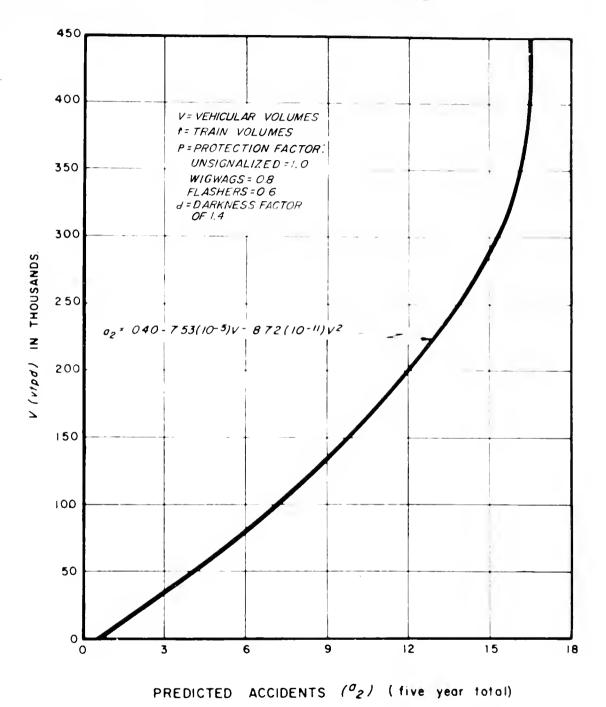


FIG. 2 OREGON STATE ACCIDENT PREDICTION CURVE (SOURCE: OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DEPT., TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 56-3, GRADE CROSSINGS ON STATE AND FEDERAL AID HIGHWAYS.")



 $X_{03} = 1$, $X_{01} = X_{02} = X_{04} = 0$ for automatic flashers, $X_{04} = 1$, $X_{01} = X_{02} = X_{03} = 0$ for automatic gates, $X_{1} = \text{rated visibility of each quadrant, 0 for good,}$ 0.25 for fair, and 0.50 for poor,

X2 = highway volume evaluated as follows:

 $X_3 = \text{number of tracks (maximum of four).}$

Protection Standards

The crossing protection devices investigated in this study have been standardized and receive the combined approval of the Association of American Railroads and the Bureau of Public Roads. (3, 6, 36) These standards are described in Appendix A.

The American Association of State Highway Officials has established the following design criteria: (2)

- National uniformity of warrant criteria exists in the agreement that the degree of grade crossing protection should be based upon the daily exposure factor.
- Protective devices should be clearly visible at a distance at least equal to the stopping distance required.
- Roadway gradient should be flat at and adjacent to the railroad crossing.
- 4. The corner sight triangle should be maintained clear of obstructions.



- 5. In other than flat terrain, it may be necessary to rely on speed control signs and warning devices.
- 6. Sight distance along the railroad tracks should be 13.5 times the train speed for a single-unit highway vehicle and 17.5 times the train speed for a 50-foot combination highway vehicle.

Factor Analysis

Factor analysis is an analytical tool which permits a parsimonious description of a given set of variables by resolving the variables linearly into a smaller number of factors. J. Versace in his article discussing factor analysis as a tool for accident analysis wrote:

"There is no one cause of accidents. Instead, there are innumerable influences acting at any instant, and for all we know there may even be a residual component of causelessness. The fact that there is a great number of influences should direct us to explore techniques that will seek to find groupings of these influences that have something in common. This common element then would take on a significance of its own and allow us to consider a smaller number of more comprehensive ideas instead of individual influences." (38)

Factor analysis has been used as an analytical tool in the field of traffic engineering in two recent speed studies. Reliable prediction equations were developed by the factors generated from the multitude of variables investigated. Factor analysis also is used to obtain additional understanding of the relationships that exist among a great many variables. (29, 40)



PROCEDURE

An initial decision in this study was to decide the nature of the crossings to be analysed. Several previous studies considered only crossings which had accidents with the result that coefficients of the resulting formulas were based primarily on the variability in the number of accidents. Such a study requires accident data over a long period of time because it is extremely rare when more than one accident occurs at a particular crossing in a period of one or two years.

Because accident data were readily available for only two years, 1962 and 1963, and so that more meaningful correlations could be developed, accident locations were compared to non-accident locations. The 239 accident locations, which included most of the rural crossings in Indiana with at least one accident in 1962 and 1963, were established by using the traffic accident reports of the Indiana State Police. The 241 non-accident locations were randomly selected in the following manner:

- 1. The railroad lines were outlined on a state map;
- 2. Railroad mileage for each county was measured on the map;
- 3. By simple proportion based on railroad mileage, each county was allocated a number of the total non-accident locations to be investigated; and
- 4. The selected number of railroad crossings in each county was selected from county maps.

To ascertain that each non-accident crossing represented an accident-free location, the nearest available residents to the crossing were asked about accidents at the proposed study location. If an accident

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had occurred at the location, the crossing was eliminated from the analysis. The railroads also checked their records for accidents at these non-accident locations. The contact with residents was also valuable in another way. They often supplied needed information regarding the installation dates of new protective devices.

Many possible variables were selected and all those which could be realistically evaluated were investigated. Many variables were evaluated subjectively by use of dichotomous values (0 or 1 value representing absence or existence of a situation).

The information for the 56 selected variables came primarily from three separate sources: police accident reports; field investigations; and railroad correspondence. These variables and the equipment used for their measurement are given in the following description of the variables. Appendix B contains a photograph of the equipment along with a sample field data sheet. In the following lists the variable name is followed by the method of coding or the units of measurement.

Description of the Variables

From Accident Report Data (Accident Locations Only)

- 1. Vehicle type (Coded 0 if car, 1 if truck).
- Age of vehicle years.
- 3. Out-of-county vehicles (Coded 0 if in-county, 1 if out-of-county).
 The vehicle registration or owner's address was used to determine the origin of the vehicle.
- 4. Out-of-state vehicle (Coded O if in-state, 1 if out-of-state).
- 5. Number of occupants driver plus passengers. This variable was included because of the possible distraction caused by passengers.
- 6. Actual car speed mph. The speed of the car was not always listed on the accident report. The car speed was then

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- established by driving the approach to the crossing at the speed the investigator considered a maximum safe speed for the highway and subtracting 10 mph.
- 7. Actual train speed mph.
- 8. Vehicle defects (Coded 0 if no defects, 1 if defects were indicated). This variable indicated the officer's opinion of whether or not mechanical defects were a contributing factor to the accident.
- 9-11. Surface type portland cement concrete, asphalt, or gravel

 (Coded 0 if absent, 1 if present for each type). These three

 variables were also applicable to the non-accident locations and
 the data for them were obtained from field observations.
- 12. Dry pavement (Coded 0 if dry, 1 if wet or had ice or snow).
- 13. Ice or snow (Coded 0 if dry, 1 if ice or snow).
- 14. Clear weather (Coded 0 if clear, 1 if cloudy).
- 15. Darkness (Coded 0 if daylight, 1 if darkness). This variable was defined as darkness if the accident occurred between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- 16. Window position (Coded 0 if window down, 1 if window rolled up).

 Often the officers reported the windows were up (and/or radio playing), and driver possibly could not hear either the warning bells or train whistle. If the accident report did not indicate this information, the time of day, time of year, and reported weather conditions were used as guides.
- 17. Drinking driver (Coded 0 if not drinking, 1 if drinking).
- 18. Male-female driver (Coded 0 if female, 1 if male).
- 19. Driver age years.

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- 20. Personal injury (Coded 0 if no personal injury, 1 if personal injury). The number of personal injuries involved in an accident was not recorded because of the obvious strong relationship to number of passengers. A fatality was considered a personal injury for this variable.
- 21. Fatality (Coded 0 if no fatality, 1 if fatality). The number of deaths was not recorded because of the relationship to number of passengers.
- 22-28. Day of the week (Coded 0 if not on a certain day, 1 if on the day).

Field Data (All Locations)

The data obtained at a grade crossing were measured on the approaches where an accident occurred at accident locations and on one randomly selected approach each for vehicles and trains at non-accident locations. Variables 29 to 35 were coded as 0 if not existing, 1 if existing.

- 29. Painted crossbuck.
- 30. Reflectorized crossbuck.
- 31. Flasher.
- 32. Gate.
- 33. No protection. (No gate, flasher, or crossbuck.)
- 34. Stop sign.
- 35. White edge line.
- 36. Highway gradient percent. This variable was measured with a hand-level and Chicago self-supporting rod, recorded by sign to the nearest 0.1 percent.
- 37. Railroad gradient coded same as variable number 36.
- 38. Highway curvature degree. This variable was measured by taking the offset in inches at the center of a 62-foot chord attached to



- nails driven in the center of the highway.
- 39. Railway curvature degree, measured same as variable number 38 (chord attached to rails with a magnet).
- 40. Number of tracks pairs.
- 41. Pavement width feet.
- 42. Advance warning sign (Coded 0 if not existing, 1 if existing).
- 43. Pavement crossing markings (Coded 0 if not existing, 1 if existing).
- 44. Number of businesses. This variable represents the number of business establishments located a distance of one-half mile along the approach to the crossing on both sides of the roadway.
- 45. Number of advertising signs measured similarly to variable number 44.
- 46. Presence of minor obstructions (Coded 0 if not obstructed, 1 if partially obstructed). This variable considered such things as brush or trees which would hinder the view of an approaching train but would not completely block its view.
- 47. Number of houses measured similarly to variable number 44.
- 48. Line of sight coded by sine of angle. This variable represents the angle at which a motorist could first view an approaching train when the vehicle is at a distance from the crossing equal to the stopping sight distance as determined either by the speed limit or maximum safe speed of the highway. The sine of the angle included between the highway and the first view of an approaching train was recorded to three decimal places. A hand compass was used to measure this angle.
- 49. Intersection angle degree. This variable was measured with a hand compass and coded to the nearest five degrees.

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Railroad Correspondence Data (All Locations)

- 50. Average number of passenger trains per day.
- 51. Average number of freight trains per day.
- 52. Average freight train speed mph.
- 53. Average passenger train speed mph.
- 54. Total number of trains TPD.

Vehicular Traffic Data (All Locations)

- 55. Average daily traffic ADT. The files of the Indiana State
 Highway Commission were used as a reference for collection of
 these data.
- 56. Average car speed mph. Determined as described in discussion of variable number 6.

Analysis of the Data

All data were punched on IEM cards for the various statistical analyses. The schematic diagram shown in Figure 3 outlines the analytical approach used in this research investigation.

Two factor analyses were performed to develop descriptive explanations of the grade crossing characteristics. Orthogonal principal factors were generated in decreasing order of their contribution to the total variance. Factor analysis reduces a multi-variable correlation matrix to a common factor matrix. Because a factor is a measure of several variables, the resulting factor matrix has fewer dimensions. Since the factors are orthogonal, they are independent of one another. To facilitate the interpretation of the generated factors, the coordinate system is rotated until the variance for each factor is maximized.

After the factor analyses were performed, the dependent variables representing accidents were functionally related to the factors by means of multiple regression techniques. The regression coefficients were

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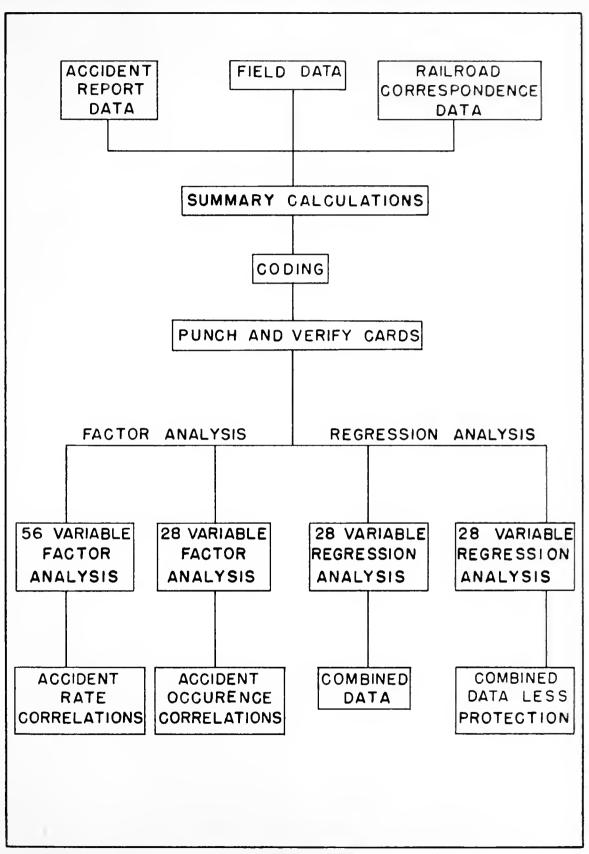


FIGURE 3 - FLOW DIAGRAM



developed by solving the following equations expressed in matrix notation. The first equation was used to develop the factor scores to permit evaluation of factors for values of the variables while the second equation correlated the dependent variable with the factors.

 $E = A I'y^{-2}p$

where E = factor-score matrix,

A = varimax matrix.

P = principal-factor matrix, and

y = diagonal matrix of latent roots.

c = Er'

where c = column vector of regression coefficients,

E = factor-score matrix, and

r = row vector of correlation coefficients for the
 dependent variable correlated with the independent
 variables.

The dependent variables for the factor analysis performed on the accident locations only were accident rate as determined by the inverse of the ADT and total exposure represented by the inverse of the product of train volume and vehicular volume. For the combined data factor analysis, the dependent variable was accident occurrence, a dichotomous variable representing occurrence or non-occurrence of an accident (coded 0 if non-accident location, 1 if an accident location).

Regression analysis was performed on 28 variables common to both accident and non-accident locations. Three other common variables - rail-way gradient, stop sign, and no protection - were not included due to insufficient data. The "buildup" regression routine allowed the ordering of variables which thus eliminated confusing interpretation. In general, ADT and TPD were ordered so that their contributions to hazard were

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considered initially.

Mathematical Models

The linear regression model for factor analysis utilizes the regression coefficients between the dependent variable and the various factors.

$$IH = \overline{H} + s(c_1F_1 + c_2F_2 + ... + c_mF_m + cU)$$

where IH = index of hazard.

 \overline{H} = grand mean of the hazard,

s = standard deviation of hazard.

c; = common factor coefficient,

$$(j = 1, 2, ..., m),$$

$$F_{j} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} e_{i,j} Z_{i} = K_{j} = \text{common factor}$$
 $(i = 1, 2, ..., n; j = 1, 2, ..., m),$

 e_{ij} = standard regression coefficient for j-th factor score (i = 1, 2, ..., n; j = 1, 2, ..., m),

 $Z_i = independent variable (i = 1, 2, ..., n),$

 K_{i} = residual variable for j-th factor score

$$(j = 1, 2, ..., m),$$

c = unique factor coefficient,

U = unique factor,

m = number of common factors, and

n = number of independent variables.

The linear regression model for regression analysis is as follows:

IH =
$$a + b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + ... + b_nx_n + Q$$

where IH = index of hazard,

a = intercept.

 $b_i = regression coefficient (i = 1, 2, ..., n),$

 $x_i = independent variable (i = 1, 2, ..., n),$

Q = residual variable, and

n = number of independent variables.



The index of hazard referred to in the factor analysis is the functional relationship between the independent variables and the generated factors. The index of hazard for the regression analysis is the functional relationship between the dependent and independent variables.



RESULTS

Solutions to the proposed mathematical models for estimating apparent hazard at a railroad grade crossing are presented and discussed according to the statistical techniques employed. A factor analysis was performed on the 56 variables which described the 289 accident locations. The resulting factors were then correlated with dependent variables representing accident hazard. Another factor analysis was performed on the 28 variables that were descriptive of both accident and non-accident locations. These factors were then correlated with accident occurrence as the dependent variable. Several regression analyses were also performed to express hazard in terms of the influencing independent variables.

Means and standard deviations of the study variables are presented in Tables 7 and 11 in Appendices C and D, respectively. Factors are denoted with letters, and variables numerically, to facilitate referencing throughout the text.

Summary Statistics

Twenty-five of the 56 variables investigated in this study pertained only to the accident locations. The remaining 31 variables described both accident and non-accident locations. The following statistical summary was developed from the at-grade highway-railway crossings analysed in this research investigation.

- 1. Driver characteristics.
 - a. Driver age The average age of all drivers involved in a grade crossing accident was 36 years.
 - b. Driver sex 86 percent of these drivers were male.



- c. Driver residence 72 percent of the drivers were from the county in which the accident occurred. Minety-four percent of the drivers were residents of the State of Indiana.
- d. Number of occupants The everage number of occupants was1.36 persons per vehicle.
- e. Drinking driver Only six percent of the accident reports indicated that the driver had been drinking.
- f. Personal injury 62 percent of the accidents resulted in at least one personal injury.
- g. Fatality 14 percent of the accidents resulted in at least one fatality.

2. Vehicle characteristics.

- a. Vehicle type 27 percent of the accident vehicles were trucks.
- b. Age of vehicle The average age of vehicles involved in grade crossing accidents was 5.2 years.
- c. Vehicle defects 17 percent of the vehicles evidenced contributing mechanical defects.
- d. Window position 71 percent of the vehicles were considered to have had their windows rolled up at the time of the accident.
- e. Actual car speed The average of the reported car speeds of vehicles involved in accidents was 24 mph.
- f. Actual train speed The average of the reported speeds of trains involved in accidents was 41 mph.

3. Environmental characteristics.

a. Clear weather - 74 percent of the accidents occurred during clear weather.



- b. Darkness 36 percent of the accidents occurred at night.
- c. Pavement surface moisture Pavements were dry 57 percent, wet 16 percent, and had ice or snow 27 percent of the time that accidents occurred.
- d. Day of the week Accident occurrence by day of the week is summarized below:

Monday	14.2%
Tuesday	14.5%
Wednesday	11.8%
Thursday	15.6%
Friday	16.3%
Saturday	15.6%
Sunday	11.8%

The following data were collected at both accident and non-accident locations. They represent the geometric and traffic characteristics that were employed in the development of the prediction equations presented in this study.

			Accident Locations	Non-Accident Locations
4.	Roa	dway characteristics		
	a.	Horizontal curvature	0.23 Deg.	0.14 Deg.
	ъ.	Vertical alinement	1.0%	1.0%
	c.	Pavement width	19.7 ft.	17.2 ft.
	d.	Pavement type:		
		Portland Cement Concrete	7%	1%
		Asphalt	7 <i>5%</i>	43%
		Gravel	18%	56%
	в.	Intersection angle	94 Deg.	90 Deg.



			Accident Locations	Non-Accident Locations
	f.	Advance warning sign	69%	72%
	g.	Pavement crossing markings	10%	476
	h.	White edge line	10%	4%
	i.	Sine of line-of-sight angle	0.58	0.58
5.	Rai	lroad characteristics		
	a.	Horizontal curvature	0.15 Deg.	0.06 Deg.
	b.	Vertical alinement	0.0%	0.0%
	c.	Number of track pairs	1.43	1.18
6.	Roa	dside characteristics		
	а.	Number of businesses	1.6	0.8
	ъ.	Number of advertising signs	0.6	0.1
	c.	Number of houses	3.1	1.9
	d.	Minor obstructions	70%	77%
7.	Pro	tection devices		
	a.	Painted crossbucks	53%	69%
	b.	Reflectorized crossbucks	23%	20%
	c.	Flashers	18%	96
	d.	Gates	4%	1%
	e.	No protective device	2%	1%
8.	Tra	affic cheracteristics		
	a.	Number of passenger trains	2.9	1.8
	b.	Number of freight trains	9.8	7.0
	c.	Average freight train speed	40.3 mph	38.5 mph
	d.	Average passenger train speed	44.2 mpn	40.8 mph
	e.	Total number of trains	12.7	8.3
	f.	Average daily traffic	1,185	342
	g.	Average car speed	39.2 mph	41.8 mph



Accident Location Factor Analysis

In an attempt to determine the underlying causes of highway-railroad grade crossing accidents, the 56 variables previously identified and discussed were factor analysed. Twenty-one significant factors with a latent root of 1.0 or greater were generated. The correlation matrix was factorized by the principal-axis technique with ones inserted in the main diagonal of the matrix. The value of 1.0 for the terminal latent root was arbitrarily established for the selection of the significant factors. The contribution of these factors to an explanation of the total variance of the variables is shown in Table 12, Appendix C, to be approximately 70 percent. This factor matrix affords a parsimonious description of the 56-dimensional space representing the original variables.

The orthogonal factors were rotated by the varimax technique to facilitate physical interpretation of the common factors. The principal-axis solution was thus transformed into the more understandable form represented by the rotated-factor matrix in Table 11, Appendix C.

In general, only variables with factor coefficients of ±.300 or greater were used to interpret the factors. Variables with smaller loading values were occasionally considered because they complemented the identification. An interpretive name, description and the important contributing variables with their respective factor coefficients are listed below.

- A. Major railroad facility. This factor describes the conditions characteristic of an important railroad operation.
 - 40 Number of tracks, +.608
 - 51 Number of passenger trains, +.665
 - 52 Number of freight trains, +.797
 - 53 Average train speed, +.301
 - 54 Total number of trains, +.847



- B. Local-service road. Many features of a low-volume highway are readily identifiable in this factor.
 - 9 Portland coment concrete, -.314
 - 29 Crossbuck, +.362
 - 31 Flashers, -.710
 - 35 White edge line, -.665
 - 41 Pavement width, -.748
 - 45 Number of advertising signs, -. 595
 - 55 ADT, -.812
- C. Secondary highway. These variables represent surfaced roads that service both local and through traffic. These surfaces were primarily of the intermediate catagory which includes bituminous surface treatment, bituminous penetration, and mixed bituminous surfaces.
 - 9 Portland cement concrete, -.494
 - 10 Asphalt, +.955
 - 11 Gravel, -.752
 - 41 Pavement width, +.234
 - 47 Number of hours, +.241
- D. Inclement weather. The presence of adverse weather conditions is evidenced by this factor.
 - 12 Dry pavement, -.874
 - 13 Ice or snow, +.857
 - 14 Clear weather, -.329
 - 16 Windows up, +.612
- E. Lack of visual distractions. These variables reflect the presence of no roadside distractions which divert driver's attention.
 - 6 Actual car speed, +.272



- 44 Number of businesses, -.738
- 45 Number of advertising signs, -. 44-5
- 47 Number of houses, -.638
- 48 Angle of view, +.173
- 56 Average car speed, +.522
- F. Isolated crossing. A minor railroad crossing in an underdeveloped area is indicative of the variables loading this factor.
 - 34 Stop sign, -.208
 - 43 Roadway warning sign, -.712
 - 46 Minor obstructions, -.778
 - 49 Intersection angle, -.787
 - 54 Total number of trains, -.300
- G. Elderly driver. This factor represents typical conditions for accidents involving older drivers. Many of these variables also suggest a suicidal collision.
 - 6 Actual car speed, +.300
 - 7 Actual train speed, +.157
 - 8 Vehicle defects, -.508
 - 9 Portland cement concrete, -. 104
 - 19 Driver age, +.481
 - 20 Personal injury, +.733
 - 21 Fatality, +.705
- H. Minimum protection. The dominance of the painted crossbuck describes the use of minimal protection devices.
 - 29 Painted crossbuck, +.829
 - 30 Reflectorized crossbuck, -.847



- I. Inadequate alinement. The restrictive vertical and horizontal alinements with associated low vehicular speeds identifies this catagory of crossing environment.
 - 6 Actual car speed, -.399
 - 9 Portland cement concreto, -.314
 - 36 Highway gradient, +.665
 - 37 Railway gradient, +.354
 - 38 Highway curvature, +.406
 - 39 Railway curvature, +.236
 - 48 Sine of engle of view, +.522
 - 56 Average car speed, -.346
- J. Female driver. Women who have consumed alcoholic beverages are normally not found driving vehicles on the highway.
 - 17 Alcohol, -.648
 - 13 Male driver, -.598
 - 33 No protective device, -.736
- K. Truck traffic. All of these variables combined represent typical truck travel.
 - 1 Truck, +.448
 - 2 Vehicle age, +.369
 - 5 Number of occupants, -.773
 - 18 Male driver, +.238
 - 38 Highway curvature, -.344
- L. An interpretative name could not be assigned for this factor.
 - 27 Saturday, -.300
 - 28 Sunday, +.802



- M. High-speed railroad location. All variables suggest high-speed train operations.
 - 7 Actual train speed, +.699
 - 39 Railway curvature, -.312
 - 50 Average freight train speed, +.869
 - 51 Number of passenger trains, +.454
 - 53 Average train speed, +.864
 - 54 Total number of trains, +.300
- N. An interpretive name could not be assigned for this factor.
 - 1 Trucks, -.327
 - 26 Friday, +.315
 - 27 Saturday, +.362
- O. An interpretive name could not be assigned for this factor.
 - 22 Monday, +.763
 - 27 Saturday, -.425
 - 38 Highway curvature, -.333
- P. An interpretive name could not be assigned for this factor.
 - 25 Thursday, +.832
 - 27 Saturday, -.404
- Q. An interpretive name could not be assigned for this factor.
 - 23 Tuesday, -.843
 - 27 Saturday, +.353
 - 39 Railway curvature, -.378
- R. Local traffic. These variables suggest travel in the area of the driver's residence.
 - 1 Trucks, -.333
 - 3 Out-of-county, -.730
 - 4 Out-of-state, -.766
 - 37 Railway gradient, -.358



S. Crossing in an industrial area. The flat terrain, low speed and presence of stop signs indicating obstructed view define this factor.

1 - Trucks, +.192

6 - Actual car speed, -. 266

18 - Male driver, +.200

32 - Gates, -.712

34 - Stop sign, +.266

37 - Railway gradient, -.419

T. An interpretive name could not be assigned for this factor.

23 - Tuesday, -.172

24 - Wednesday, -. 819

27 - Friday, -.283

U. Reduced visibility. These variables suggest driving conditions during periods of reduced visibility.

14 - Clear Weather, -. 695

15 - Darkness, +.595

42 - Advance warning sign. +. 344

Although these 21 factors provided a simplified representation of the original study variables, it was necessary to correlate these common factors with some measure of accident potential or hazard. Because average daily traffic, ADT, was a relative measure of exposure at the grade crossing and because each location in this portion of the analysis experienced one accident during the two-year study period, the inverse of the ADT provided a measure of the accident rate.

According to the technique outlined in the Procedure, the factorscore matrix and the correlation coefficients between the selected dependent variable and the factors were developed. The factor-score



matrix is presented in Table 13, Appendix C, and the correlation coefficients in Table 3.

The factors identified as local-service road, secondary highway, and female drivers correlated significantly with accident rate. While all factors explained 19 percent of the variation in accident rate, these three factors accounted for 16 percent. The unexplained percentage is due to measurement errors, the absence of important variables that were not identified or measured such as driver characteristics and, probably, in large part to the element of chance.

A positive correlation was observed between accident rate and localservice road. Because such facilities carry low traffic volumes, the
accident rate at the accident-only locations was high. For the same reason, Factor C, secondary highway, which represents surfaced highways which
serve both through and local traffic, correlated negatively with accident
rate. Secondary highways do not have a high accident rate because they
carry a high traffic volume. The female driver, as represented by Factor J,
had a negative correlation with accident rate. Women who have consumed
alcoholic beverages normally are accompanied by a male who does the driving. Women drivers seldom drive on the low-class roads where no protective
devices are found.

To gain further insight into the highway-railway grade crossing accident problem, the 21 factors representing accident-only locations were correlated with some measure of total exposure. In this case, total exposure was defined as the inverse of product of the daily train volume, TPD, and daily vehicular volume, ADT. The results of this correlation are presented in Table 4. Factors B and J, local-service road and female driver, correlated similarly with exposure as they did with accident rate. Major railroad facility, Factor A, correlated negatively with exposure.

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TAPLE 3

CORRELATION OF ACCIDENT RATE WITH THE FACTORS

56 VARIABLE FACTOR ANALYSIS

	Correlation
Factor*	Coefficient
A	0231
В	+.2537**
C	2097**
D	+.0061
E	+.0963
F	+.0181
G	0218
н	0457
I	+.0765
J	 2335**
K	0530
L	1424
М	+.0729
N	0315
0	1063
P	0386
Q	+.0103
R	+.0128
s	0105
T	0598
ט	+.0262

^{*} A fold-out key to the factors is presented in Appendix D.

^{**} Dominant factors.

TABLE 4

CORRELATION OF EXPOSURE WITH THE FACTORS

56 VARIABLE FACTOR ANALYSIS

Factor*	Correlation Coefficient
A	2717**
3	+.2195**
С	0735
D	+.0859
E	+.1296
F	+.0472
G	0141
Н	+.0012
I	+.0437
J	1690**
К	0229
L	0557
M	1091
N	0423
0	0691
P	+.0405
Q	+.0029
R	+.0373
S	+.0351
Т	,+.0225
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^{*} A fold-out key to the factors is presented in Appendix D.

^{**} Dominant factors.

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The relatively large number of exposures resulting in one accident for each location of this classification resulted in the negative correlation. These four factors explained 16 percent of the variation in total exposure while only an additional three percent was explained by the remaining 17 factors.

Combined Location Factor Analysis

The previous factor analysis was performed on data representing accident locations only to identify those characteristics related to accident situations. To obtain a realistic measure of hazard, a factor analysis was performed on 28 variables common to both accident and non-accident locations. The variables representing no protection, stop signs and rail-road gradient were eliminated because of insufficient data.

Ten significant factors with a latent root of 1.0 or greater were generated. As shown in Table 16, Appendix D, the contribution of these factors to the total variance of the variables accounted for 70 percent of the variance. Means and standard deviations of the study variables, the rotated-factor matrix, the correlations of accident occurrence with the other variables and the factor-score matrix are also in Appendix D. The ten common factors that were generated are described below:

- AA. Local-service road. All variables which describe this factor indicate local access roads.
 - 9 Portland cement concrete, -. 371
 - 29 Crossbuck, +.355
 - 31 Flashers, -.740
 - 35 White edge line, -.702
 - 41 Pavement width, -.732
 - 44 Number of businesses, -.359
 - 45 Number of advertising signs, -.637
 - 55 ADT, -.802



- BB. Major railroad facility. These variables reflect movement of many trains at relatively high speeds.
 - 40 Number of tracks, +.586
 - 50 Freight train speed, +.510
 - 51 Number of passenger trains, +.805
 - 52 Number of freight trains, +.868
 - 53 Average train speed, +.610
 - 54 Total number of trains, +.938
- CC. Skewed crossing. This factor suggests travel on a major road with the railroad crossing at a wide intersection angle.
 - 42 Advance warning sign, +.513
 - 43 Pavement crossing marking, +.647
 - 46 Minor obstructions, +.540
 - 49 Intersection angle, +.820
- DD. Secondary highway. The highway type described by these variables serves both local and through traffic.
 - 9 Portland cement concrete. -.315
 - 10 Asphalt, +.960
 - 11 Gravel, -.859
 - 41 Pavement width, +.302
 - 47 Number of houses, +.329
- EE. Minimum protection. The dominance of painted crossbucks explains these crossings.
 - 29 Painted crossbuck, +.858
 - 30 Reflectorized crossbuck, -.929

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- FF. Distractions. This factor is described by the roadside development which may distract the drivers.
 - 44 Number of businesses, +.710
 - 45 Number of advertising signs, +.451
 - 47 Number of houses, +.644
 - 56 Average car speed, -.585
- GG. Inadequate alinement. Restrictive vertical and horizontal alinement variables constitute this factor.
 - 36 Highway gradient, +.501
 - 38 Highway curvature, +.751
 - 39 Railway curvature, +.508
 - 56 Average car speed, -.320
- HH. Low speed railroad location. The low train speeds and volume indicated by these variables describe a minor railroad operation.
 - 39 Railway curvature, +.400
 - 50 Freight train speed, -.743
 - 53 Average train speed, -.701
- II. Inadequate visual warning. These variables suggest lack of view prior to the crossings.
 - 36 Highway gradient, -.434
 - 42 Advance warning sign, -.318
 - 46 Minor obstructions, +.611
 - 48 Sine of line-of-sight angle, -.740
- JJ. Protected crossing. This factor represents the use of a physical barrier when trains are present.
 - 9 Portland cement concrete, +.296
 - 32 Gates, +.916
 - 40 Number of tracks, +.308



These ten factors were then correlated with accident occurrence; that is, whether or not an accident occurred at the crossing location. As shown in Table 5, the dominant factors, local-service road, major railroad facility, secondary highway and distractions explained 22 percent of the variation in accident occurrence. All factors explained 24 percent of the variation in accident occurrence. The coefficients for the four factors are approximately equal. Thus, each factor contributes approximately the same amount to the crossing hazard as measured by accident occurrence.

In the accident-locations-only factor analysis, the local-service road factor correlated positively with accident rate. Because local-service roads carry low traffic volumes, an accident at such a crossing reflects a high accident rate. However, in this factor analysis, local-service road was negatively related to accident occurrence thus confirming that an accident is relatively infrequent at each crossing of this type.

The major railroad facility factor contributed importantly to accident occurrence. Inspection of the correlations between the variables and the factor reveals that train volume correlates higher than train speed. Number of tracks is also highly correlated with this factor.

The secondary highway factor influenced materially to accident occurrence. Distractions, as represented by Factor FF, partially explained accident occurrence. The driver's attention apparently is diverted to the houses, businesses, advertising signs, etc., that exist along the approach to the railroad crossing. As a result, inadequate time remains to see the train or warning device.

Based on the model previously discussed in the Procedure, an estimate of accident occurrence was developed from the results of the combined



TABLE 4

CORRELATION OF ACCIDENT OCCURRENCE WITH THE FACTOR

28 VARIABLE FACTOR ANALYSIS

Factor*	Correlation Coefficient
AA	2416**
BB	+.2448**
cc	0103
סס	+.2530**
EE	0646
FF	+.1936**
G G	+.0425
нн	0679
п	+.0166
JJ	+.0721

^{*} A fold-out key to the factors is presented in Appendix D.

^{**} Dominant factors.



location factor analysis. For the purposes of this analysis, the measure of accident occurrence was defined as an index of hazard, IH. The collected data represent the accident experience for a two-year study period at the selected locations. Therefore, this index of hazard reflects the accident experience at these locations over the two years investigated.

1. IH = 0.545 + 0.498 (-0.242 F_{AA} + 0.245 F_{EB} + 0.253 F_{DD} + 0.194 F_{FF}) where IH = index of hazard (accident occurrence),

 $F_{AA} = local service road,$

F BB = major railroad facility,

FDD = secondary highway, and

 $F_{FF} = distractions.$

Because the factor analysis was performed with standard scores, the correlation coefficients relating variables to factors are also estimates of the standard regression coefficients for the different factors. Therefore, the above multiple linear equation was written to estimate the potential accident occurrence in terms of the common factors that had significant influences. To solve this equation for the index of hazard, expressions for the evaluation of the selected factors were established from the factor-score matrix. The purpose of the factor-score matrix was to permit the expression of the factors in terms of the original variables.

The following multiple linear equations for the factors are expressed in terms of those study variables which were significantly related to the factor. The factor-score matrix is presented in Table 18, Appendix D.

 $F_{AA} = -0.136Z_9 - 0.251Z_{31} - 0.224Z_{35} - 0.214Z_{41} - 0.166Z_{45} - 0.263Z_{55}$ $F_{BB} = +0.186Z_{40} - 0.112Z_{42} + 0.229Z_{51} + 0.302Z_{52} + 0.317Z_{54}$

 $F_{DD} = +0.215Z_9 -0.494Z_{10} +0.420Z_{11} +0.124Z_{45} -0.140Z_{56}$

 $F_{FF} = -0.148Z_{39} -0.132Z_{41} -0.449Z_{44} +0.270Z_{45} +0.430Z_{47} -0.428Z_{56}$

where $F_{j,j} = common factor, and$

 Z_i = significant variable (described in Appendix D).



The values of these variables must be reduced to standard-score form for the solution of these equations. This reduction is accomplished with the following relationship:

$$Z = (X - \overline{X})/s$$

where Z = standard score,

X = observed value,

 \overline{X} = mean of the variable, and

s = standard deviation of the variable.

Regression Analysis

The multiple linear regression analysis utilized in this research investigation is often referred to as "buildup" or "stepwise" regression. The independent variables were selected in order of their ability to predict the dependent variable. However, the program allowed the ordering of the variables and thus permitted the development of practical models. For all equations, train and highway traffic volumes were ordered to permit their inclusion in the multiple regression expressions.

The regression analyses were performed on the 23 variables measured at both accident and non-accident locations. The dependent variable for each equation was accident occurrence; that is, whether or not an accident occurred at the location during the two-year study period.

An equation was developed to account for the various protection devices, train and highway volumes and those additional variables which significantly influenced accident occurrence. This analysis produced the following prediction equation:

2. IH =
$$+0.149 - 0.376X_{29} - 0.300X_{30} - 0.383X_{31} - 0.331X_{32} + 0.082X_{40}$$

+ $0.0223X_{41} + 0.011X_{54} + 0.0142X_{55} + 0.024X_{57}$



where IH = index of hazard (accident occurrence) $X_{29} = \text{presence of a painted crossbuck } (0, 1),$ $X_{30} = \text{presence of a reflectorized crossbuck } (0, 1),$ $X_{31} = \text{presence of a flasher } (0, 1),$ $X_{32} = \text{presence of a gate } (0, 1),$ $X_{40} = \text{number of track pairs},$ $X_{41} = \text{pavement width in feet},$ $X_{54} = \text{TPD},$ $X_{55} = \text{ADT/1000}, \text{ and}$ $X_{57} = \text{sum of distractions}.$

In addition to the protection variables, Equation 2 also includes variables which are a measure of train and highway volumes. The type of rail and highway operations are represented by the variables designated as number of track pairs and pavement width. The number of roadside distractions also proved significant, confirming the results of the factor analysis. The sum of the three distraction variables, houses, businesses and advertising signs, was more significant in this equation than the individual distraction variables. The coefficient of determination, \mathbb{R}^2 , for Equation 2 was 19.3 percent.

The regression coefficients of the four protective devices were remarkably similar. It might be inferred from this fact that hazard was relatively independent of the type of protective device. To ascertain the statistical significance of the coefficients for the protection variables, a second multiple regression equation was developed which excluded the four types of crossing protection and included the remaining variables. The coefficient of determination for Equation 3, presented below, was 18.3 percent.



TABLE 6

RESULTS OF MULTIPLE LINEAR REGRESSION AND CORRELATION ANALYSIS

COMBINED DATA

EQUATION 2

Intercept = +0.149

Multiple Correlation Coefficient = 0.193

Standard Error of Estimate = 0.484

Variable*	Net Regression Coefficient	Standard Error
29	3753	.1740
30	3002	.1779
31	3833	.1366
32	3310	.2198
40	+.0821	.0402
41	+.0223	.0054
54	+.0107	.0026
55	+.0142	.0139
57**	+.0242	.0053

^{*} A fold-out key to these variables is presented in Appendix D.

^{**} X_{57} is equal to sum of X_{44} , X_{45} , and X_{47} .



3. IH = $0.185 + 0.079X_{li0} + 0.021X_{li1} + 0.011X_{5l} + 0.013X_{55} + 0.02liX_{57}$ where IH = index of hazard,

 X_{LO} = number of track pairs,

 X_{lil} = pavement width in feet,

 $X_{5/4} = TPD,$

 $X_{55} = ADT/1000$, and

 $X_{57} = sum of distractions.$

The F-test presented below was used to test the hypothesis that the coefficients for the four protective devices as presented in Equation 2 were not significantly different from zero.

$$F = \frac{(R_k^2 - R_r^2) / (k - r)}{(1 - R_k^2) / (N - k - 1)}$$

where F = calculated F value,

 R_{lk}^2 = multiple coefficient of determination for the original equation,

R_r² = multiple coefficient of determination for the equation without the test variables,

k = number of independent variables in the original
 equation,

r = number of independent variables in the equation without the test variables, and

N = number of observations.

The calculated F value for this data was obtained as follows:

$$F = \frac{(0.193 - 0.183)/(9 - 5)}{(1 - 0.193)/(530 - 9 - 1)} = 1.61$$

The critical value for a 95-percent level of significance with $(k_- l_+) = l_+$ and $(N_- k_- l_+) = 520$ degrees of freedom is 2.39. Because the calculated value is less than the critical value, the hypothesis that the protection coefficients are equal to zero was not rejected.



TABLE 7

RESULTS OF MULTIPLE LINEAR REGRESSION AND CORRELATION ANALYSIS

COMBINED DATA

EQUATION 3

Intercept = -0.185

Multiple Correlation Coefficient = 0.183

Standard Error of Estimate = 0.486

Variable*	Net Regression Coefficient	Standard Error
40	+.0789	.0396
41	+.0214	.0054
54	+.0110	.0026
55	+.0126	.0134
57**	+.0239	.0053

^{*} A fold-out key to these variables is presented in Appendix D.

^{**} X_{57} is equal to sum of X_{444} , X_{45} and X_{47} .



This analysis did not show that protection devices had a significant influence on the prediction of hazard at grade crossings. Although the protection device Variables can be eliminated from the prediction equation, the result of this significance test does not warrant the conclusion that protection devices have no influence on reducing hazard. This finding is restricted by the limited variability of the field conditions for the four types of protection investigated. As an example, all high volume roads were generally protected with flashers or gates, and all low volume roads were protected primarily with crossbucks. Perhaps a before-and-after study at locations where changes in protection devices are made is necessary for such evaluation.

The F-test outlined above was used to substantiate the inclusion or exclusion of the prediction variables presented in this study. The exclusion of a variable means that the analysis did not disclose any significant influence on hazard due to that variable.

Because the inclusion of the protection variables did not materially improve the estimation of hazard and because the types of protection device were equally weighted, the nomograph shown as Figure 4 was developed from Equation 3.

In an attempt to correlate the index of hazard with the present standard of installing protection devices at grade crossings, the mean indices of hazard were calculated for the study crossings protected with reflectorized crossbucks, flashers, and gates. These mean values were, respectively, 0.523, 0.774, and 0.828. A suggested warrant for the selection of at-grade protection was determined by computing the average value between the mean index of hazard for the various protection devices. Flashers would be warranted if the index of hazard is greater than 0.65, and gates would be recommended for indices greater than 0.80. The values suggested for these



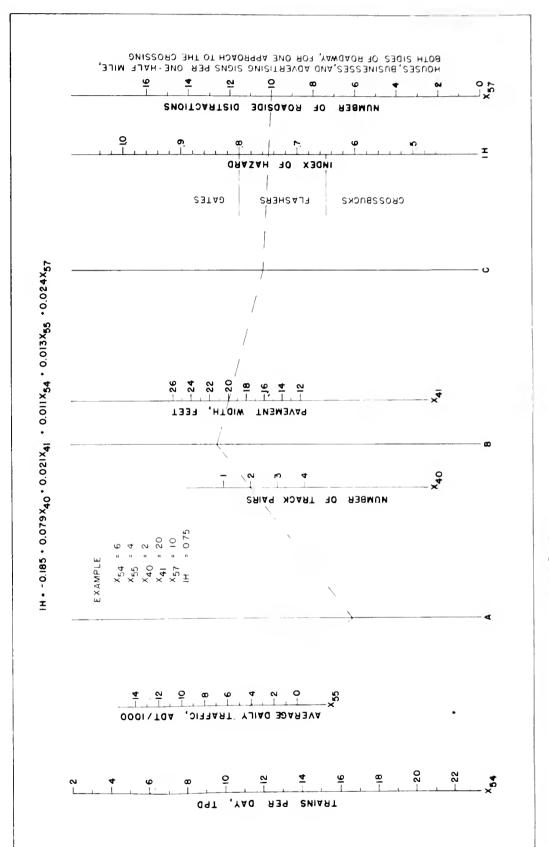


FIGURE 4. PROTECTION NOMOGRAPH

warrants are based on current levels of protection. Painted crossbucks were not included in the nomograph because all crossbucks are required to be reflectorized by state law. Although many painted crossbucks are presently in service, these devices are to be replaced with reflectorized crossbucks when necessary.

The index of hazard and minimum protection warranted for the example shown on Figure 4 is determined in the following manner;

Given: TPD = 6; ADT = 4000; 2 track pairs; 20 ft. pavement width; and 10 roadside distractions.

- 1. Draw a line extending from 6 trains per day through 4/1000 ADT to turning line A.
- From the intersection point on line A, a line is drawn through
 track pairs and extended to turning line B.
- 3. From this point of intersection, a line is drawn through 20 ft. pavement width and extended until it intersects turning line C.
- 4. After connecting this point on line C to the 10 roadside distractions, the index of hazard and minimum type of protection warranted is found at the intersection of this line with the index of hazard scale.

To check the adequacy of Equation 3, the average calculated indices of hazard for the crossings studies were compared to the actual hazard as defined by the number of accident locations, A, per number of locations investigated, N, for each type of protection. The comparison is given below:

Type of Protection	Calculated Average IH	A/N	Actual IH	Difference	Percent Variation
Painted crossbuck	0.502	155/320	0.434	0.013	3
Reflectorized crossbuck	0.523	66/115	0.574	0.051	9
Flasher	0.774	51/73	0.699	0.075	11
Gate	0.828	12/14	0.857	0.029	3



The percentage of variation was determined by comparing the difference in the calculated index of hazard and the actual index of hazard, to the actual index of hazard. The average error for all crossings investigated amounted to approximately 5.5 percent.

The regression analyses were performed independent of the factor analysis. Each technique, however, varified the results of the other. The primary predictors of hazard were type and volume of rail and highway operations and roadside distractions. Factor analysis provided a broad perspective as to the nature of accident causes. Prediction is possible with factor analysis but in this case, the simplicity of the regression model developed with the multiple linear regression technique proved to be as dependable.

Field Observations

During the course of the field studies, the research investigators observed many at-grade railroad crossings where the need for proper maintenance was most evident. Photographs illustrating these undesirable conditions are presented in Appendix F.

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CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions concerning hazard at railroad-highway grade crossings summarize the findings of this research investigation. As actual accident locations were compared to a random sample of non-accident locations, these results can reasonably be applied to all rural grade crossings within the State of Indiana.

- 1. The accident victims are predominantly young male drivers residing in the county in which the accident occurred. They are usually traveling alone and not under the influence of alcohol. More than one half of them are injured, and about one out of seven are killed.
- 2. Trucks account for more than one quarter of the accident vehicles. Seventeen percent of all vehicles involved in accidents have evidence of mechanical defects. The possibility of the driver hearing a warning bell or train whistle is reduced because the windows are closed on most vehicles. The majority of accidents occur at relatively low car speeds and at moderate train speeds.
- 3. Most accidents occur during the favorable driving conditions of clear weather, daylight hours, and dry pavements. However, the number of accidents per unit time and per unit exposure is probably greater for ice and snow conditions and for wet pavements than for dry pavement conditions.
- 4. The regression equation, generated by factor analysis (Equation 1), relates accident occurrence to four factors which were identified



- as local-service road, major railroad facility, secondary highway, and distractions. All four factors accounted for approximately the same amount of variation, which totaled 22 percent, in accident occurrence.
- 5. The type of protection is not important as a variable in the equations developed by regression analysis for the prediction of index of hazard.
- 6. The regression equation developed by the multiple linear regression technique (Equation 3) identifies number of track pairs, highway pavement width, train volume, average daily traffic volume, and the sum of distractions (number of houses, businesses, and advertising signs) as important variables for the prediction of index of hazard. This equation explains 13 percent of the variation in accident occurrence.
- 7. Warrants for the installation of protective devices at rail-highway crossings, based on the current standard of protection used in Indiana, are indices of hazard of below 0.65 for reflectorized crossbucks, 0.65 to 0.80 for flashers, and above 0.80 for gates. These values are applicable for crossings rated by Equation 3.
- 8. Prediction of index of hazard is possible with Equation 1 which was developed with factor analysis. However, the simplicity of Equation 3 developed by multiple linear regression techniques and its almost equal dependability makes it more practical to use.
- 9. This investigation of many roadway, railroad, traffic, and environmental variables permitted only an explanation of approximately 20 percent of accident occurrence. This finding lends support to the conclusion of many authors that railroad-highway grade crossing

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accidents are predominantly the result of driver characteristics and/or chance.

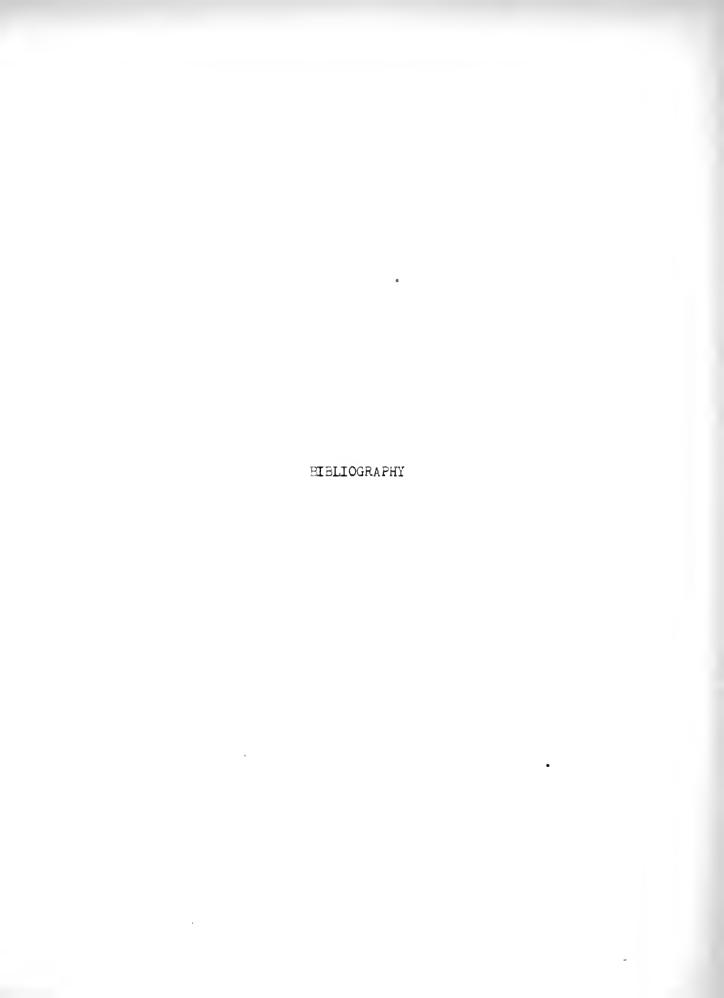
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SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The railroad-highway grade crossing involves a large and important area of accident prevention. This thesis did not attempt to cover completely the entire topic. Therefore, the following suggestions are offered as possibilities for further research.

- 1. This study analyzed rural locations only. The total number of railroad-highway grade crossing accidents are approximately distributed evenly between rural and urban areas. A similar study on urban locations is probably warranted. An urban study should include such additional variables as illumination, stop sign control, coordinated traffic signal control, and other variables pertinent to urban locations.
- Investigation of the non-linearity in the parameters and/or the variables may offer increased precision in the estimation of hazard. The equations presented in this research assume linear relationships.
- 3. Prompt investigation of accidents may yield valuable information regarding driver behavior. Data concerning the causes of driver carelessness would permit better driver education programming.
- 4. Experimentation and analysis of stop sign and traffic signal control versus flashers or gates, especially in urban areas, may offer an increased measure of protection. Previous studies have included only observations on these techniques.

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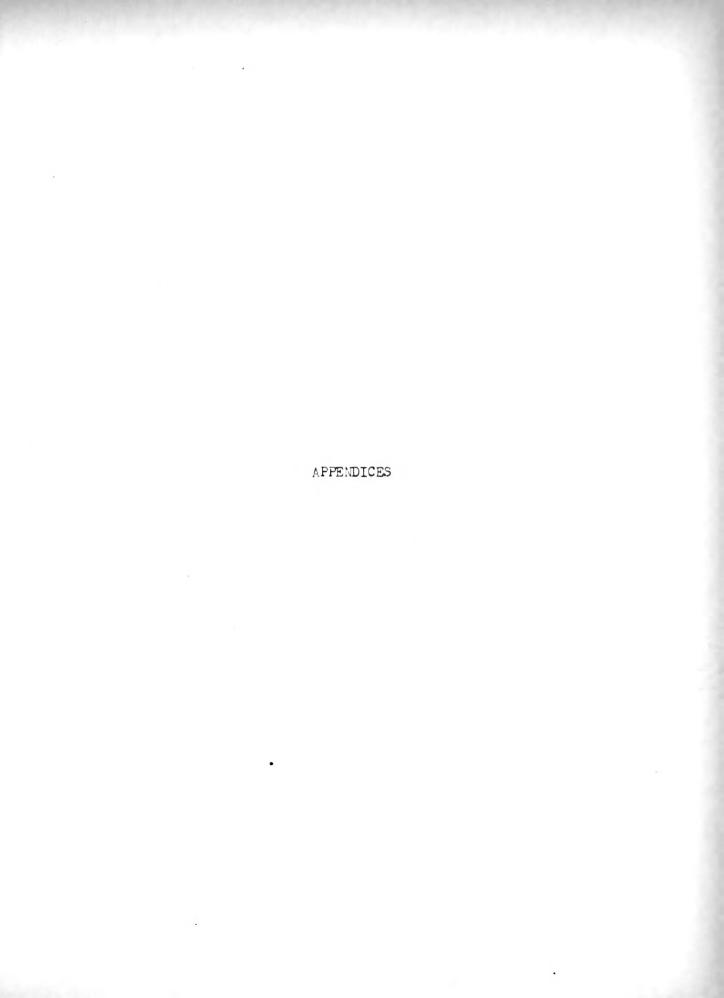
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COMPUTER PROGRAMS

- 42. "Correlation Program", BEMAD 2D, Statistical Laboratory Program,
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- 43. "Factor Analysis", BIND 3M, Statistical Laboratory Program,
 Purdue University.
- 44. "Stepwise Regression", EIMD 2R, Statistical Laboratory Program,
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APPENDIX A

Protection Standards

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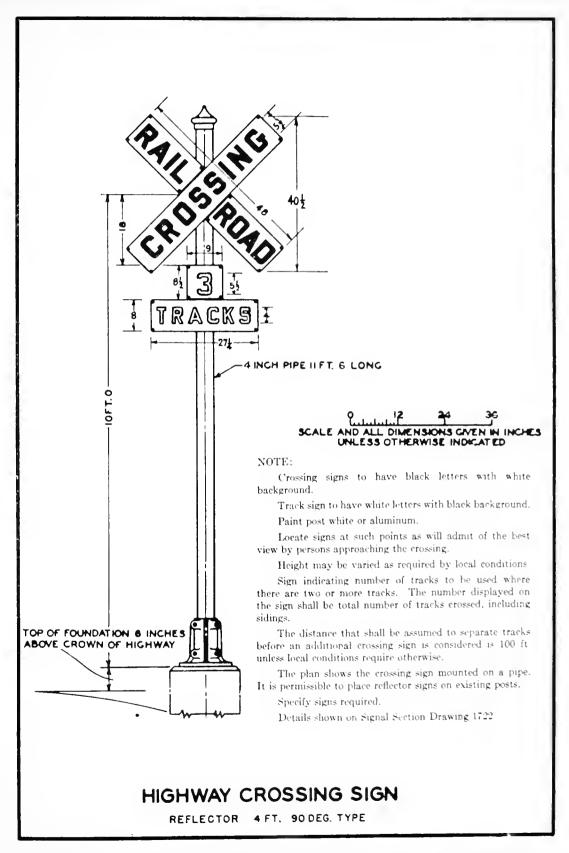


FIGURE 5 . CROSSBUCK STANDARD (SOURCE: "RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION," BULLETIN NO. 5, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS.)

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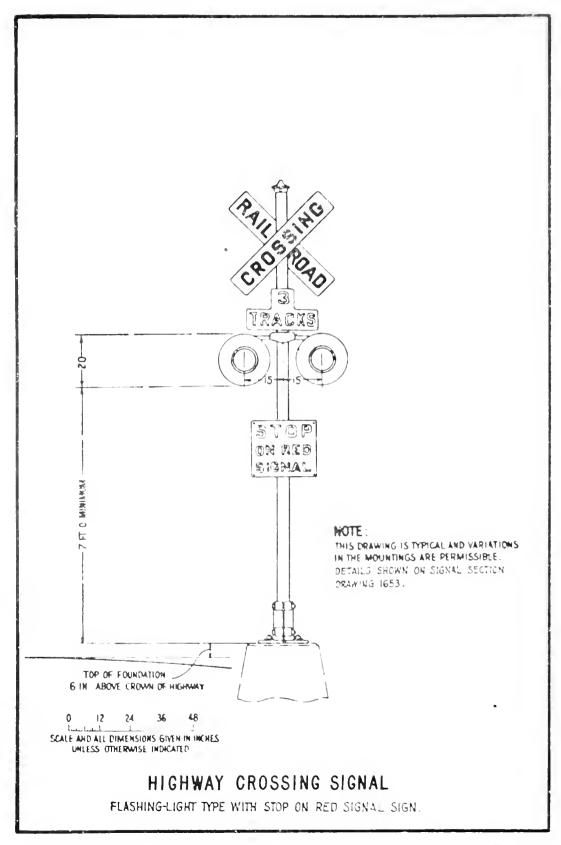


FIGURE 6 FLASHER STANDARD (SOURCE: "RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION," BULLETIN NO. 5, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS.)

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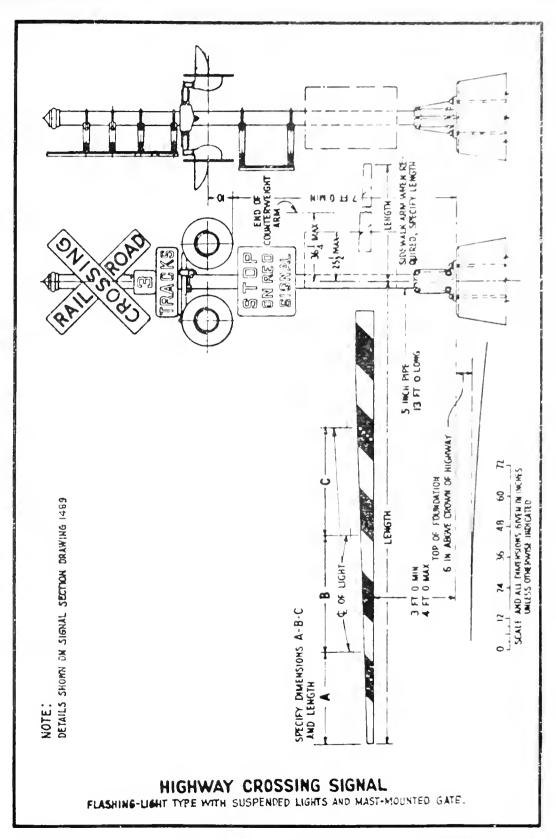


FIGURE 7 GATE STANDARD (SOURCE: "RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION," BULLETIN NO. 5, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS.)



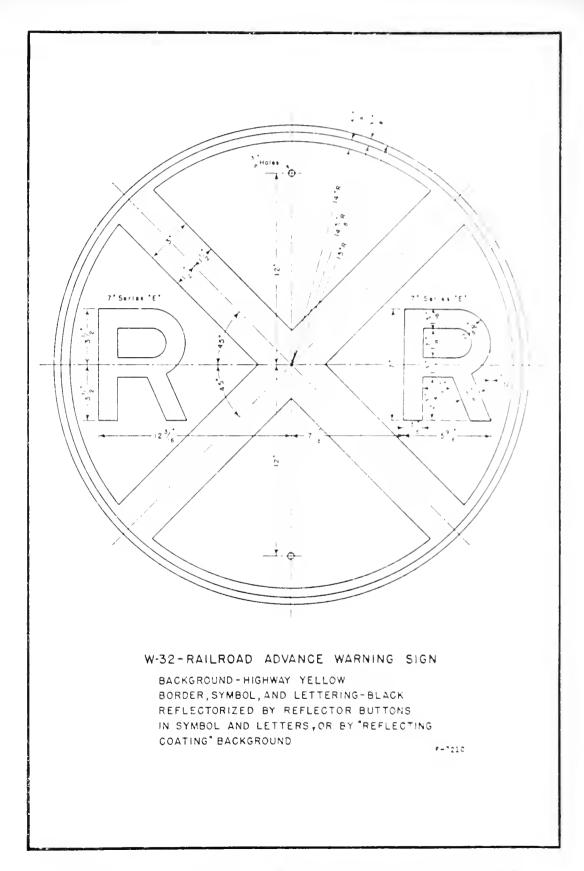
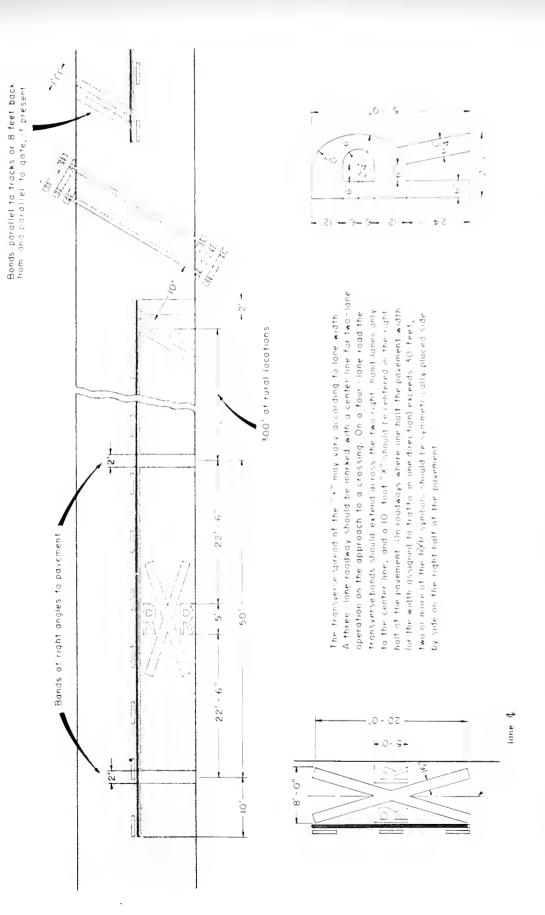


FIGURE 8 ADVANCE WARNING SIGN STANDARD (SOURCE: "RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION," BULLETIN NO. 5, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS.)

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MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES FOR STREETS AND HIGHWAYS, NATIONAL JOINT STANDARD (SOURCE: MARKINGS COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES.) PAVEMENT ROADWAY თ FIGURE



APPENDIX B

Field Equipment and Sample Data Sheet





FIGURE 10. FIELD EQUIPMENT

PHILADELPHIA SELF-SUPPORTING ROD 50-FT. TAPE HAND LEVEL 62-FT. CORD WITH NAILS AND MAGNETS CAMERA

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FIELD WORK SHEET

Туре	of Protection:	Vehic	ular Volume
Α.	Painted X-bucks.		
В.	Reflectorized X-bucks.	Misce	llaneous:
C.	Flashers Only.	Α.	No. of Tracks
D.	Flashers & Gate.	Ë.	Pavement Width
Ε.	Other	С.	Roadway Warning Sign
F.	Condition	D.	Roadside Warning Sign
G.	Side Lane Markers	E.	Number of Roadside Eusinesses
Grade	:		•
Hig	hway	F.	Number of Advertising Signs
Rai	lway		•
Curva	ture:	G.	Presence of Minor Obstructions
Hie	ghway•		(trees, grass, etc.)
Rai	lway	н.	No. of Houses
Туре	of Highway:		
Calci	ılations:		

Figure 11. Sample Data Sheet



APPENDIX C

Accident Location Factor Analysis Data

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TABLE 8

MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS OF THE STUDY VARIABLES

Variable*	Mean	Standard Deviation	Variable*	Mean	Standard Deviation
1 2	0.2664 5.183	0.4429 4.480	29 30	0.5294	0.5000
1 2 3 4	0.2803	0.4940 0.2421	31 32	0.1765	0.3819 0.1998
5 6	1.360 24.14	0.9025 18.40	33 34	0.0173	0.1306 0.3078
7 8 9	40.62 0.1730	22,40 0.3789	35 36	0.1038 0.8782	0.3055
10	0.0727	0.2600 0.4352	37 38	-0.0066 0.2318	0.2376
11 12	0.1834	0.3877 0.4953	39 40	0.1488	0.7736 0.7091
13 14	0.2734	0.4465	41 42	19.72 0.68 <i>5</i> 1	6.095 0.6410
15 16	0.3633	0.4818 0.4564	43	0.0969	0.4137
17 18	0.0583 0.8650	0.2357 0.4320	45 46	0.6471	1.404
19 20	36.30 0.6228	15.45 0.4855	47 48	3.080 0.5824	3.077 0.372
21 22	0.1384	0.3459	50	94.13	73.98 14.78
23 24	0.1453	0.3530 0.3228	51 52	2.941 9.834	3.060 7.123
25 26	0.1557 0.1626	0.3632	53 54	44.19 12.976	16.60 9.776
27 28	0.1557 0.1176	0.3632 0.3223	55 56	1,135	2,357 12.20

^{*} A fold-out key to these variables is presented on page 92.

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TABLE 9

CORRELATION OF ACCIDENT_RATE WITH THE OTHER VARIABLES

Variable*	Correlation Coefficient	Variable*	Correlation Coefficient
1	+.0437	29	0266
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	+.0956	30	+.0562
3	0011	31	1779
4	 0660	32 33	0744
5	+.0299	33	+.4160
6	0349	34	0661
7	+.1441	35	1311
8	+.0151	36 37	+.1143
9	0938	37	0035
	2296	38	+.0547
11	+.2926	39	0260
12	0703	40	0283
13	0190	41	2869
14	0668	42	0877
15	0699	43	 0583
16	0905	144	2005
17	+. 0668	45 46 47	139 ₫
18	0136	46	+.0395
19	0002	47	1292
20	0303	48	+.0032
21	0152	49	 0 <i>5</i> 76
22	0889	50	+.0427
23	 0263	51	+.0577
24	0384	52	+.0336
2 5 26	+.0463	53	+.0617
	+.0026	54	+.0439
27	+.1251	55	2079
28	0843	56	1117

^{*} A fold-out key to these variables is presented on page 92.



TABLE 10

CORRELATION OF TOTAL EXPOSURE WITH THE OTHER VARIABLES

Variable*	Correlation Coefficient	Variable*	Correlation Coefficient
1	+.0620	29	0276
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	+.0223	30	+.0539
3	+.0221	31	1314
4	0376	32	0523
5	+.0773	33	+.4367
6	1004	33 34	0212
7	+.1743	35	1074
8	+.0122	36	+.0796
9	0770	37	0003
10	1732	38	+.0367
11	+.2505	39	0340
12	0353	40	+.1073
13	0140	41	2132
14	0610	42	0638
15	0288	43	+.0096
16	0026	44	1520
17	+.0239	45 46	1067
18	+.0219	46	+.0963
19	+.0309	47	0978
20	0243	48	+.0805
21	0022	49	+.0236
22	0115	50	+.1402
23	0456	51	+.2212
24	0589	52	+.2844
25	0196	53	+.1907
26	+.0124	54	+.3010
27	+.1719	55	1535
28	0607	56	1296

^{*} A fold-out key to these variables is presented in Appendix D.

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56 VARIABLE ROTATED-FACTOR MATRIX

Vari.					F.	ctor*				
able	A	В	C	D	E	F	G	H	Ī	J
1	+.0676		1989			+.0999		+.0018		
2	+.2183	+.0734		0673		+.1111		+.0805		
3	0019	1322	0877				083/+			0722
4	+.0092			+.0289			+.03/49			
	1	+.0598	0806		- 0484		+.0514			
5	- 2411	1974	+.2405				+.2989			
7	+.1228		0283				+.1569		+.0828	
8	+.1267	0253	0691	1576			5080			+.1132
9	+.0831	3137	- 4941	0049			1036			
10	+.0062			+.0135			+.0076			
ii	0511	1 7 4		+.0009			+.0617			
12		0420	+.0329				+.0978			
13	+.0377			+.8565		_	+.0070			
14	+.0383		03/11				+.0583			
15	+.1705		+.0868				+.0228			
16	+.0743		+.1326				+.2117			
17	+.0259		0334				0560			
18	+.0333		0237	0671			+.0723			
19	0739		+.0392				+.4813			
20		+.0235		0430			+.7332			
21	+.0211			+.0557			+.7049			
22	+.0492			+.0272			+.0184			
23	1 '	+.0241	+.0382	0994			+.0154			
24	0827		+.0873				+.0215			
25		+.0471		+.0666			0603			
26	+.0173			0124			0452			
27	+.1582			+.0305			+.0708			
28		0275		+.0423			+.0143			
29		+.3623	+.0125	0323			+.1154			
30		+.2075		+.1153			+.0785			
31		7105	0381				1555			
32		0761		1012			0626			+.0089
33		+.0904	0957				0509		+.2092	
34	1	+.1556					+.0074			+.2320
35		6651					0366			
36		_			+.1324					
37		+.0774					+.0697			
38		+.0765					0738			
39		2152					+.0501			
40		+.1167					+.0078			
41					+.0760					
42					+.1787					
43		1868					+.0122			
4		2762					+.0122			
45	1200	=. 2/UZ	0216	7.0774	4445					
46	- · 1 690	-• J7 J0	01.33	0720	+.0149	7774	0350	→ V331	UK30	+ 01.06
47	1,000	# 0010	→ のエング	7.0/47	6382	→ .///O	+ 0000	רייור ו	1826	0.025
48					+.1728					
	0229	0036	בננט•ד	0202	T. 1/40	7277	T.0//4	1/105	+ 03/10	→ 0022
49	- 00000 - 2000	UUJO	T.040L	- 0277	+.0720 +.0444	(O()	7620	- 1742)	4 0/120	+ 07.00
50	1.4UU4	T. UL 24	T.0005	7.0140	+ 0/17 2	T 0600	7140	0016	0230	+ 1002
51	T.0055	T・Uフフラ	01100	1105	+.0413	T. 0000	1100	0601	1940	1704
52	T. / 90/	T. 0701	± 07.07	T.0003	+.0253	0622	0740	0004	+ 0802	+ 07/16
53	T. 7007	T-U549	T-U191	0051	+.0440	2026	0.0709	0540	0344	0331
54	T.0400	T. 0092	0365	T.0057	+.0368	4750	-,0703	- 0200	- NITE	→ 0/102
55					0904	7.0004	T.1040	7.000/	T. 0415	4 7/10E
56	4059	2572	+.0505	+.0357	+.5215	0586	+.0812	4.00T9	>+04	T.1465

^{*} A fold-out key for these variables and factors is presented on page 92.

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56 VARIABLE ROTATED_FACTOR MATRIX

17	50 VARIABLE RUTATED-FACTOR MATRIX											
Vari- able	К	L	М	И	0	Factor	Q 1	R	3	Т	U	
1	+.4484				0647							
2		0982				- 2047			2194			
3		+.0731		_		+.0816						
4	0231		+.0044		+.0571	0799			+.1011			
5					+.0592				+.0216			
. 6	0292			+.1028					2650			
?	+.0507			0643	0016	1632			0415	0279	1475	
8		0139		-					+.1028			
9		+.2981		0325		+.0037	+.0003		0300			
10	+.0177				+.0356				0012			
11					+.0244				+.0628			
12		+.0242					0514		+.0075			
13		0205				+.0954	0190		+.1345	0208	0956	
14					0066							
15		+.1478		+.2741			0711		0538			
16		+.1611							1000			
17 18		+.0829							2130			
19		+.0797			+.1379		+.0924		+.1996			
20					+.2001				0424			
21					0893				+.0782			
22					+.7629							
23					0727							
24					+.0086							
25					0971							
26					1095				+.1555			
27					4252							
28					0371							
29											+.0239	
30	0025	0905	0108	+.1106					+.0471			
31		0430				1164						
32		+.2024	l						7115			
33		0490									+.0039	
34					3006							
35					+.0833							
36					1293							
37					+.1998							
38					3327				0104			
39					0822				0908		+.1037	
40 41					 0062 +. 0303	4 0803	01.01	0220	+.0129	0646	+ 0220	
42					+.2843							
43	+ Urdo	1217	1400	+ 0260	0696	+ 0698	0727	- 0221	1183	- 0528	- 0622	
44					+.0470							
45	+ 0603	- 1052	_ 0948	+ 1019	+.0146	+.0649	1236	+.0351	1761	0430	+.1309	
46					1149							
47					1259							
48					+.1528							
49					+.2060							
5Ó					0027							
51					0261							
52	1081	1458	+.2529	+.0395	+.0266	0263	+.0239	+.0159	0062	0402	0527	
53					+.0163							
54					+.0227							
55					+.0280							
56	+.0018	0976	+.0961	+.1006	0186	+.0297	+.0474	0390	1695	1315	0724	
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TAHLE 12

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 21 PRINCIPAL FACTORS

Factor*	Eigenvalue	Percent of Total Variance	Cum. Percent of Total Variance
A	4.96	8.86	8,36
B C	3.43	6.14	15.00
	2.65	4.73	19.73
D	2.45	4.37	24.10
E	2.31	4.13	28.23
F	2.17	3.87	32.10
G	2.04	3.66	35.76
Н	1.83	3.26	39.02
I	1.69	3.02	42.04
J	1.63	2.90	44.94
K	1.57	2.81	47.75
L	1.51	2.69	50.44
M	1.39	2.48	52.92
N	1.34	2.40	55.32
0	1.31	2.33	57.65
P	1.23	2.19	59.84
Q	1.21	2.16	62.00
R	1.13	2.11	64.11
S	1.11	1.98	66.09
T	1.06	1.39	67.98
Ũ	1.04	1.85	69.83

^{*} A fold-out key to these factors is presented on page 92.

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56 VARIABLE FACTOR_SCORE MATRIX

17 and			50 VA	KTVBTE 1	FACTOR_S		ATRIX			
Vari-	A	В	C	T -		tor*				
able			0731	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1 2	+.0904				+.0163		+.0361			
2	+.0037				1208		+.0011		0525	
3 4		+.0572	U472	0173	0065		0186			
4		+.0213			0391		+.0007			
5		+.0154	0350	+.0231	0010			0169	0524	
0			+.1003	0386	+.1797	+.0326	+.1579	+.0038	2154	0610
8		+.0040	0128	+.0282	0453	0346	+.0994	+.0429	0078	0039
		0533		0433	0985	0552	2611	+.1027	+.0553	+.0593
9		0842		0221	+.0013	0170	0106	0425	1714	+.1039
10		+.0190		0007	+.0130	+.0234	0330	+.0297	+.0330	0544
11		+.0318		+.0168	0093	0084	+.0451	0046	+.0843	0594
12		0294		4103	+.0687	+.0184	+.0524	+.0090	0117	0130
13	+.0202	0370		+.4293	+.0021	+.0064	0227	+.0175	+.0045	0294
14	+.0383	0356	0007	0424	0578	0306	+.0157	0359	+.0327	+.0288
15	+.0891	+.0229	+.0005	0862	0332	+.0486	+.0442	+.0477	+.0182	0735
16	+.0590	0030	+.0156	+.2798	0893	0440	+.1033	0374	+.0477	+.0709
17		+.0557	0057	+.0156	1020	0146	0115	+.0165	1079	
18		0172			+.0537					
19		0884			+.0108					
20		+.0327			0096					
21	+.0091		0809	+.0148	0808	- 0229	+.4000	+.1109	0227	+ 0824
22		+.0116			0559					
23		0056			+.0342					
24		+.0525			+.0205					
25		0124		+ 0221	0684	0303	0257	+ 0387	± 0261	± 0537
26		+.0085		+ 0035	+.0067	± 0121	U2)I	0317	+ 0/158	+ 010E
27		0653			+.0592					
28		0166			+.0110					0361
29		+.1110			+.0370					
30		+.0724			0050					
31		2418			0538					
32		0023			+.0165					
		+.0263			+.0296					
33		+.0423			0938					+ 1202
34										
35			+.0040							
36			+.0106							
37			0037							
38			0629							
39	+.0081	0933	+.0093	+.0321	+.0557	0121	+.0100	T.1522	T.1303	+.0220
40	+.256L	7.0378	+.0424	0204	0015	+.0268	+.0305	+.UL14	T. 0975	T. 0000
41			+.1032							
42			0138							
43			+.0212							
44			0119							
45			1040							
46			0217							
47			+.0600							
48	+.1200	1264	+.0617	+.0522	+.0902	+.1155	+.0090	+.0008	+.3236	0576
49	0184	+.0090	0283	0398	+.0246	3586	+.0165	0902	+.0566	+.0568
50	0607	0222	+.0213	+.0008	+.0103	+.0932	+.0116	+.0526	0268	0224
51	+.2153	0296	+.0204	0716	+.0488	+.0365	0124	0026	0435	+.0506
52	+.3033	0120	0020	+.0491	+.0285	+.0159	+.0443	0135	0957	0848
53	0214	0249	+.0141	0042	+.0101	0250	+.0028	+.0305	+.0092	0121
54	+.3198	0271	0110	+.0165	+.0338	1273	+.0227	0152	0535	+.0053
55	+.0653	2765	0537	+.0172	0191	+.0014	+.0535	+.0219	+.0771	+.0603
56	0612	0823	+.0319	0038	+.2815	0250	+.0296	+.0442	1812	+.0451
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56 VARIABLE FACTOR SCORE MATRIX

Vont	Vari- Factor*											
able	K	L	M	N	0	P		R	3	T	U	
1	+.2947						Q				+.1065	
2	+.2998		0572	1020	→• 07/9	1666	0505	1//4	1,1012	+.0165	067.5	
3	0642	0330	- 0008	1029	0330	1000	0,000	1.600	1077	0074	0015	
4	0466	01.51	0606	0250	± 0252	0263	=.0430	1,4000	0745	0612	T.0705	
1 ' 1	5852									+.0427		
5 6	0844											
7	+.0378	0020	0107	0000	0023	7.1200	01/2	- OT/O	1050	0106	7.0);Z	
8	0759	0203	+ 0607	0176	0022	2029	0107	T.0440	4.0930	0103	0///	
9	+.0104	± 2086	7.0001	UII	7.0075	2033	0112	+.0955	+.0527	0619	+.0322	
10	+.0031	7.2000 Alilia	± 0182	0270	0045	7.0021	0104	0025	0190	+.2064	+.007/	
111	0089	0756	T 0307	0219	0019	0092	0140	0059	+.0551	+.0404	0095	
12	+.0875	± 07 90	0129	T.0327	T.0501	+.0402	+.0170	+.0120	0130	1679	0191	
13	+.0289		0420	+.0117	0960	0211	0142	+.0358	+.0078	0072	0273	
14	-	0114	0424	7.0120	0090	+.0311	0002	+.0090	+.0705	0109	1520	
1	+.0371	± 0202	0/152	T.1002	+.0478	+.0398	+.0480	+.0497	0366	0286	4003	
15 16	+.0597	+ 1110	0970	7.1907	+.0455	+.0059	0590	+.0501	+.0111	0643	+ 3935	
1	± 0002	±•1110	0079	T.0403	4.0320	1035	+.0009	0247	0045	0356	+.0227	
17	T.0093	T.0230	7.0400	T.1701	0107	+.0251	0552	+.0177	1383	+.0518	+.0156	
18	T.14))	T.0915	0144	1504	+.1080	+.0206	+.0557	0146	+.19/2	0132	+.0772	
19										+.1007		
20										0639		
21										+.0826		
22	0594									+.0144		
23	+.0027	0330	+.0226	1636	+.0465	0546	6180	0310	+.0026	1675	+.0106	
24										+.6576		
25										0871		
26										0432		
27										2995		
28										0570		
29										+.0125		
30										0235		
31										0147		
32										+.0621		
33										0287		
34										1228		
35										0699		
36										0170		
37										1517		
38										+.1879		
39	0598									+.2172		
40										0436		
41	+.0025									0587		
42	+.0684									+.0085		
43										0483		
44										0306		
45	+.0250	1058	+.0372	+.0818	+.0052	+.0642	1142	+.0455	1123	0274	+.0484	
46										+.0419		
47										0421		
48	+.0029	0150	0720	0187	+.1129	+.0755	+.0675	+.0713	0167	0985	1529	
49	+.0302	+.0516	0058	0532	+.1360	+.0050	+.0717	+.0278	+.1151	+.0242	+.1471	
50	0468	+.0513	+.3548	+.0578	0101	+.0905	0405	+.0038	+.0083	+.0539	+.0681	
51	+.0180	+.0198	+.0800	0020	0362	0030	0653	+.0316	+.0082	+.0382	+.0310	
52	0807	1322	0140	+.0617	+.0207	+.0382	0259	0067	+.0087	+.0027	0479	
53	0163	+.0503	+.3290	+.0379	+.0020	+.0897	0333	+.0208	0127	+.0325	+.0665	
54	0301	0646	0141	+.0289	+.0148	+.0484	0272	0031	+.0349	+.0099	0377	
55	0354	+.0199	0252	0377	0095	+.0146	0542	+.0221	+.0441	+.0233	0360	
56	0336	0665	+.0787	+.0433	0907	+.0126	+.0065	+.0448	1192	0772	0837	
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APPENDIX D

Combined Location Factor Analysis

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Variable*	Mean	Standard Deviation
9	0.0434	0.2039
10	0.6019	0.4900
11	0.3585	0.4800
29	0.6038	0.4896
30	0.2170	0.4126
31 32	0.1377	0.3450
32	0.0264	0.1605
35 36	0.0735	0.2613
36	0.9913	1.707
38	0.1906	1.254
39	0.1094	0.644
40	1.319	0.601
42	18.64	5.225
43	0.7038	0.561
1414	0.0698	0.332
45	1.251	1.732
46	0.4057	1.129
47	0.7321 2.555	0.583 2.729
48	57.98	38.46
49	92.60	56.73
50	39.62	14.26
51	2.417	2.901
52	8.566	6.560
53	42.75	16.23
54	11.08	9.06
55	806.7	2,102.9
56	40.34	10.73

* A fold-out key to these variables is presented in Appendix D.

TABLE 15
28 VARIABLE ROTATED_FACTOR MATRIX

Vari-					Fact	tor*				
aple	AA	BB	CC	DD	EE	FF	GG	НН	II	JJ
9	3707	+.1151	1714	3152			1227		+.2618	+.2958
10	1040	+.0432	+.0708				+.0296			
11	+.2641	0889	0052				+.0246			
29	+.3549	0583	+.0170			0521			0704	
30	+.1973	+.0165	+.0263		9286					
31	7398	+.0160			0781		+.0208			
32	0324	+.1011		+.0703			+.0169			
35	7018	1772	+.2174	+.0852	+.0077		0122			
36	+.1637	+.0168	+.0982	1025	+.0180		+.5009			
3 8	+.0280	0557	0465	+.0123	+.0142	+.0256	+.7514	+.0602	+.1192	+.0488
39	2110	0159	+.0055	+.0953			+.5076			
40	+.0862	+.5862	0540	+.1278	+.0996	+.1221	+.0214	0700	1086	+.3076
41	 7315	0092	0472	+.3016	+.0198	0450	0864	1365	0322	+.0959
42	1727	1505	+.5131	+.1288	0254	1488	1963	+.2593	3184	+.0607
43	2564	+.0694	+.6472	+.0644	+.0905	+.0722	+.0540	2474	+.1144	0123
444	3592	+.0216		+.1500	+.0320	+.7096	0778	0761	+.0569	0032
45	6373	0618	+.1469	+.0055	0478	+.4508	0057	1464	0984	+.0574
46	+.1502	+.0862			+.0363					
47		0544	1		0383					
48		+.2338	0866		+.0804					
49					0735					
50	0389	+.5097		0477			+.0566			
51	_	+.8047		+.0333				+.2527		
52		+.8681			0766					
53					0280					
54					0454					
55		+.0431		+.0241			+.0379			
56	2740	1863	+.0469	+.2152	+.0112	5846	3197	+.0993	+.0773	+.0612

^{*} A fold-out key to these factors and variables is presented in Appendix D.

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TABLE 16

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 10 PRINCIPAL FACTORS

Factor*	Eigenvalue	Percent of Total Variance	Cum. Percent of Total Variance
AA	4.19	14.96	14.96
BB	3.88	13.84	28.50
CC	1.97	7.04	35.34
DD	1.81	6.47	42.31
EE	1.70	6.08	48.39
FF	1.50	5.34	53.73
GG	1.29	4.61	5=.34
HH	1.18	4.22	62.56
II	1.07	3.83	66.39
JJ	1.04	3.71	70.10

^{*} A fold-out key for these factors is presented in Appendix D.

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TABLE 17

CORRELATION OF ACCIDENT OCCURRENCE WITH THE OTHER VARIABLES

	Correlation
Variable*	Coefficient
0	+.1444
10	
11	+.3194
29	3 808
30	1683
30 31	+.0226
32	+.1515
) L	+.0944
35 36	+.1693
38	0714
39	+.0320
39 40	+.0606
41	+.1877
42	+.2926
42	0221
44	+.0810
	+.2118
45 46	+.2399
	0471
47	+.2022
48	+.0194
49	+.0328
50	+.0728
51	+1905
52	+.1923
53	+.1142
54	+.2115
55	+.2433
55	1361

^{*} A fold-out key for these variables is presented in Appendix D.

		G.			
Q.					
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TABLE 13
28 VARIABLE FACTOR_SCORE MATRIX

Vari-	Factor *									
able	AA	BB	CC	DD	EE	FF	GG	НН	II	JJ
9	1365	+.0807	1156	2150	0430	0556	0745	1760	+.2031	+.2454
10	+.0679	+.0080	0107	+.4945	+.0161		+.0530			
11	0125	0407	+.0574	4201	+.0011	+.0523	0209	+.0664	0728	0357
29	+.0776	+.0217	+.0142	+.0341			0671			
30	+.0971	+.0039	+.0263	+.0011	5317	+.0003	0360	0917	0550	0769
31	2507	0080	0613	0357	0060	0055	+.0567	+.1541	+.0715	1628
32	+.0519	0533	+.0399	0106	0037	0161	+.0470	+.0256	0240	+.8313
35	2240	0793	+.0961	0255			+.0362			
36	+.0202	0620	+.1124	0313			+.3732			
38	0197	0483	0492	+.0381	+.0081	0239	+.6021	+.0844	+.1260	+.0762
39	0938		0313				+.3999			
40	+.0517	+.1860	0134	+.0545			+.0021			
41	2143	+.0347	0681	+.0924	+.0428	1324	0237	0873	0139	+.0273
42	0275	1118	+.3233	+.0265	0206	0567	1418	+.2023	3030	+.0689
43	0542	+.0724	+.3401	0289	+.0539	+.0291	+.0331	1578	+.0145	0082
44	0495	0003	0215	0271	+.0388	+.4491	0785	0012	+.0172	0640
45	1663	0127	+.0964	1237	0277	+.2701	0073	0519	1237	+.0066
46	+.0604	+.0457		0119		0227	+.1180	0052	+.4151	+.0548
47	+.0759	0885	+.0205	+.0973	+.0065	+.4295	0942	+.1736	+.0289	+.0571
48	0084	+.0721	+.0341	0276		0133	0313	1262	5390	+.0241
49	+.0449		+.4604				0312			
50	0525	+.0412	0899	0080			+.0660			
51	0165	+.2285	0371	+.0156	+.0247	0306	0140	+.0225	+.0235	+.0214
52		+.3015					0697			
53	0349		+.0162				+.0689			
54		+.3169					0396			
55	2626	+.0511					+.0543			
56	0970	0459	0235	+.1404	+.0388	4281	1892	+.0636	+.0664	+.0576

^{*} A fold-out key for these factors and variables is presented in Appendix D.

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VARIABLES

- 1. Vehicle Type
- 2. Vohicle Age
- 3. Out-of-County
- 4. Out-of-State
- 5. Number of Occupants
- 6. Actual Car Speed
- 7. Actual Train Speed
- 8. Vehicle Defects
- 9. P.C.C. Surface
- 10. Asphalt Surface
- 11. Gravel Surface
- 12. Dry Pavement
- 13. Ice or Snow
- 14. Clear Weather
- 15. Darkness
- 16. Windows
- 17. Alcohol
- 18. Male Driver
- 19. Driver Age
- 20. Personal Injury
- 21. Fatality
- 22. Monday
- 23. Tuesday
- 24. Wednesday
- 25. Thursday
- 26. Friday
- 27. Saturday
- 28. Sunday

- 29. Painted Crossbucks
- 30. Reflectorized Crossbucks
- 31. Flashers
- 32. Getes

- 33. No Protection
 34. Stop Sign
 35. White Edge Line
 36. Highway Gradient
 37. Railway Gradient

 - 38. Highway Curvature 39. Railway Curvature
 - 40. Number of Tracks
 - 41. Pavement Width
 - 42. Advance Warning Sign
 - 43. Pavement Crossing Markings
 - 44. Number of Businesses
 - 45. Number of Advertising Signs
 - 46. Minor Obstructions
 - 47. Number of Houses
 - 48. Angle of View
 - 49. Intersection Angle
 - 50. Average Freight Train Speed
 - 51. Number of Passenger Trains
 - 52. Number of Freight Trains
 - 53. Average Train Speed
 - 54. TPD
 - 55. ADT
 - 56. Average Car Speed
 - 57. Sum of 44, 45, and 47

FACTORS

- A. Major Railroad Facility
- B. Local Service Road
- C. Secondary Highway
 D. Inclement Weather
- D. Inclement weather

 E. Lack of Visual Distractions

 FF. Distractions
- G. Elderly Driver
- H. Minimum Protection
 I. Inadequate Alinement
- J. Female Driver
- K. Truck Traffic
- L. Factor L
- M. High-Speed Railroad Location
- N. Factor N
- O. Factor O
- P. Factor P
- Q. Factor Q
- R. Local Travel
- S. Crossing in an Industrial Area
- T. Factor T
- U. Reduced Visibility

- AA. Local Service Road
- BB. Major Railroad Facility
- CC. Skewed Crossing
- DD. Secondary Highway
- EE. Minimum Frotection

- GG. Inadequate Alinement HH. Low Speed Railroad Location II. Inadequate Visual Warning
- JJ. Protected Crossing

VARIABLES

Vehicle Type Vehicle Age

Out-of-County

4. Out-of-State

5. Number of Occupants

6. Actual Car Speed 7. Actual Train Speed

8. Vehicle Defects

9. P.C.C. Surface

10. Asphalt Surface

11. Gravel Surface

12. Dry Pavement 13. Ice or Snow

14. Clear Weather

15. Darkness

16. Windows

17. Alcohol

18. Male Driver

19. Driver Age

20. Personal Injury

21. Fatality 22. Monday

23. Tuesday

24. Wednesday

25. Thursday 26. Friday

27. Saturday

28. Sunday

29. Painted Crossbucks

30. Reflectorized Crossbucks

31. Flashers

32. Gates

33. No Protection

34. Stop Sign

35. White Edge Line

36. Highway Gradient

37. Railway Gradient 38. Highway Curvature

39. Railway Curvature

40. Number of Tracks

41. Pavement Width

42. Advance Warning Sign

43. Pavement Crossing Markings

44. Number of Businesses 45. Number of Advertising Signs

46. Minor Obstructions 47. Number of Houses

48. Angle of View

49. Intersection Angle

50. Average Freight Train Speed

51. Number of Passenger Trains

52. Number of Freight Trains

53. Average Train Speed

54. TPD 55. ADT

56. Average Car Speed

57. Sum of 44, 45, and 47

FACTORS

Major Railroad Facility Α.

В. Local Service Road

C. Secondary Highway D. Inclement Weather

E. Lack of Visual Distractions

F. Isolated Crossing

G. Elderly Driver

Minimum Protection Н.

I. Inadequate Alinement

J. Female Driver Κ. Truck Traffic

L. Factor L

Μ. High-Speed Railroad Location

Factor N Ν.

0. Factor 0

Factor P P.

Factor Q Q.

R. Local Travel

S. Crossing in an Industrial Area

T. Factor T

U. Reduced Visibility AA. Local Service Road

BP. Major Railroad Facility

CC. Skewed Crossing

DD. Secondary Highway EE. Minimum Frotection

FF. Distractions

GG. Inadequate Alinement HH. Low Speed Railroad La Low Speed Railroad Location

II. Inadequate Visual Warning

JJ. Protected Crossing

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APPEIDIX E

Typical Installations

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FIGURE 12 TYPICAL CROSSBUCK INSTALLATION

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FIGURE 13 TYPICAL FLASHER INSTALLATION



FIGURE 14 TYPICAL GATE INSTALLATION

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FIGURE 15 TYPICAL ADVANCE WARNING SIGN INSTALLATION

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APPENDIX F

Field Observations

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FIGURE 16 RESULTS OF INADEQUATE MAINTENANCE

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FIGURE 16 CONTINUED

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FIGURE 17 INADEQUATE SIGHT DISTANCE

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FIGURE 17 - CONTINUED





FIGURE 17 - CONTINUED

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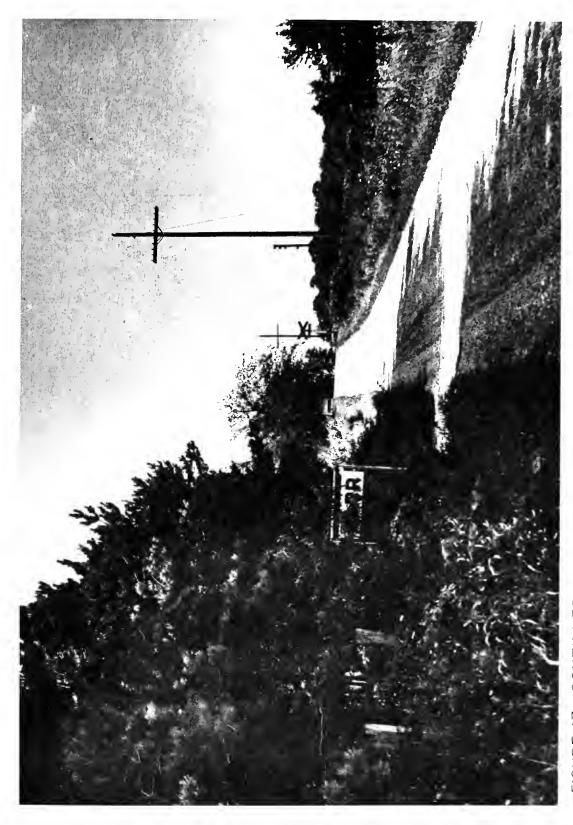


FIGURE 17 CONTINUED

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FIGURE 18 - SEASONAL VARIATION IN SIGHT DISTANCE DUE TO CROP GROWTH.

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